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AND

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REVIEW OF NEW BOOKS.

The Family Library, No. XII. Dramatic Series, No. 1. Massinger. London, 1830. J. Murray.

WE are not surprised at the wide circulation of the *Family Library*; nor do we think it likely that the conductors will drop from their high station, if they continue to vary their bill of fare with the good taste and tact which have hitherto, on the whole, distinguished them. The volumes are, of course, of unequal merit—but, with perhaps one exception, none of them wants some features of powerful attraction, and most of them possess claims of a superior order as to literary execution; while the shape and appearance of these little books, and the style in which they are decorated,—in short, to speak technically, the whole getting up of the concern—must be allowed to be admirable, even in this time. But much as we have been gratified with the *Library* heretofore, we must say we consider the present Number as opening a happier and wider field, and one more certain to prove eminently useful to the public, than any thing the editors had previously set before us. Whatever may be thought of the plan of publishing *Family Shakespeares*—and we know opinions are still much divided on that subject—there can be no sort of question that the works of our other elder dramatists, rich as they are in every element of interest and instruction—beautiful as is their poetry, exquisite their versification, powerful their pathos, and lofty their philosophy—are wholly and entirely unfit to be placed, as hitherto edited, in the hands of young persons, or of females of any age, or even to be thought of for a moment as furniture for the drawing-room table and the parlour-window, or to form the solace of a family-circle at the fire-side. In most cases, no doubt, those gifted writers, when they admitted improper passages into their compositions, were only sacrificing their own better taste and judgment to the comparative coarseness of their contemporaries; but when we cast our eye over their pages, and observe in what large proportions the best of them have condescended to traffic in absolute filth, it is impossible not to think with pain and sorrow of the degradation to which *lucres* can make genius stoop. What lady will ever confess that she has read and understood Massinger, or Ford, or even Beaumont and Fletcher? There is hardly a single piece in any of these authors which does not contain more abominable passages than the very worst of modern panders would ever dream of hazarding in print—and there are whole plays in Ford, and in Beaumont and Fletcher, the very essence and substance of which is, from beginning to end, one mass of pollution. The works, therefore, of these immortal men have hitherto been library, not drawing-room books;—and we have not a doubt, that, down to this moment, they have been carefully excluded, *in toto*, from the vast majority of those English houses in which their divine poetry, if strip of its deforming

accompaniments, would have been ministering the most effectually to the instruction and delight of our countrymen, and, above all, of our fair countrywomen.

We welcome, therefore, the appearance of the first Number of the *Dramatic Series* of the *Family Library* with no ordinary feelings of satisfaction. We are now sure that, ere many months elapse, the productions of those distinguished bards—all of them that is worthy of their genius, their taste, and the acceptance of a moral and refined people—will be placed within reach of every circle from which their very names have hitherto been sufficient to exclude them, in a shape such as must command confidence, and richly reward it. The text will be presented pure and correct, wherever it is fit to be presented at all—every word and passage offensive to the modest ear will be omitted; and means adopted, through the notes, of preserving the sense and story entire, in spite of these necessary erasures. If this were all, it would be a great deal—but the editors undertake much more. They will furnish in their preliminary notices, and in their notes, clear accounts of the origin, structure, and object of every piece, and the substance of all that sound criticism has brought to their illustration, divested, however, of the personal squabbles and controversies which so heavily and offensively load the bottoms of the pages in the best existing editions of our dramatic worthies. Lives of the authors will be given; and if they be all drawn up with the skill and elegance which mark the life of Massinger, in the present volume, these alone will form a standard addition to our biographical literature.

We have said so much of the design in general, that we must be excused for saying little of the specimen. It is understood to come from the Rev. Mr. Harness, Lord Byron's accomplished school-fellow at Harrow, of whom so many interesting traits are given in Moore's life of his noble friend; and whose character is too well known, both in the literary and in the religious world; to need any of our testimony. His performance will in no way disappoint expectation; but we can only afford room for one extract, in which he breaks a spear with Malone and Gifford; and has clearly and decidedly, in our humble opinion, the advantage over them both.

"The theatre, when Massinger first took up his abode in the metropolis, must have presented attractions of all others the most calculated to excite the interest, and inspire the imagination, of a young man of sensibility, taste, and education, like our poet. No art ever attained a more rapid maturity than the dramatic art in England. The people had, indeed, been long accustomed to a species of exhibition called Miracles, or Mysteries, founded on sacred subjects, and performed by the ministers of religion themselves, on the holy festivals, in or near the churches, and designed to instruct the ignorant in the leading facts of sacred history. From the occasional introduction of allegorical characters, such as Faith,

Death, Hope, or Sin, into these religious dramas, representations of another kind, called Moralities, had by degrees arisen, of which the plots were more artificial, regular, and connected, and which were entirely formed of such personifications: but the first rough draught of a regular tragedy and comedy—Lord Sackville's *Gorboduc*, and Still's *Gammer Gurton's Needle*—were not produced till within the latter half of the sixteenth century, and little more than twenty years before the stage acquired its highest splendour in the productions of Shakspeare. About the end of the sixteenth century the attention of the public began to be more generally directed to the drama; and it throve most admirably beneath the cheering beams of popular favour. The theatrical performances which in the early part of Elizabeth's reign had been exhibited on temporary stages, erected in such halls or apartments as the actors could procure, or, more generally, in the yards of the larger inns, while the spectators surveyed them from the surrounding windows and galleries, began to find more convenient and permanent habitations. About the year 1569 a regular playhouse, under the appropriate name of the Theatre, was erected. It is supposed to have stood somewhere in Blackfriars; and, three years after the commencement of this establishment, the queen, yielding to her own inclination for such amusements, and disregarding the remonstrances of the Puritans, granted license and authority to the servants of the Earl of Leicester ('for the recreation of her loving subjects, as for her own solace and pleasure when she should think good to see them') to exercise their occupation throughout the whole realm of England. From this time the number of theatres increased with the increasing demands of the people. Various noblemen had their respective companies of performers, who were associated as their servants, and acted under their protection; and when Massinger left Oxford, and commenced dramatic author, there were no less than seven principal theatres open in the metropolis. With respect to the interior arrangements, there were very few points of difference between our modern theatres and those of the days of Massinger. The prices of admission, indeed, were considerably cheaper:—to the boxes the entrance was a shilling; to the pit and galleries only sixpence. Sixpence also was the price paid for stools upon the stage; and these seats, as we learn from Decker's *Gull's Hornbook*, were particularly affected by the wits and critics of the time. The conduct of the audience was less restrained by the sense of public decorum; and smoking tobacco, playing at cards, eating and drinking, were generally prevalent among them. The hours of performance were also earlier—the play commencing at one o'clock. During the representation, a flag was unfurled at the top of the theatre; and the stage, according to the universal practice of the age, was strewn with rushes; but in all other respects the theatres

of Elizabeth and James's days seem to have borne a perfect resemblance to our own. They had their pit, where the inferior class of spectators, the groundlings, vented their clamorous censure or approbation; they had their boxes—rooms, as they were called—to which the right of exclusive admission was engaged by the night, for the more affluent portion of the audience; and there were, again, the galleries, or scaffoldings above the boxes, for those who were content to purchase less commodious situations at a cheaper rate. On the stage, in the same manner, the appointments appear to have been nearly of the same description as at present. The curtain divided the audience from the actors, which, at the third sounding, not, indeed, of the bell, but of the trumpet, was drawn for the commencement of the performance. Malone, in his account of the ancient theatre, supposes that there were no movable scenes; that a permanent elevation of about nine feet was raised at the back of the stage, from which, in many of the old plays, part of the dialogue was spoken; and that there was a private box on each side this platform. Such an arrangement would have destroyed all theatrical illusion; and it seems extraordinary that any spectators should desire to fix themselves in a station where they could have seen nothing but the backs and trains of the performers; but as Malone himself acknowledges the spot to have been inconvenient, and that 'it is not very easy to ascertain the precise situation where these boxes really were,' it may very reasonably be presumed that they were not placed in the position that the historian of the English stage has supposed. As to the permanent floor, or upper stage, of which he speaks, he may or may not be correct in his statement. All that his quotations upon the subject really establish is, that in the old, as in the modern theatre, when the actor was to speak from a window, or balcony, or the walls of a fortress, the requisite ingenuity was not wanting to contrive a representation of the place. But with regard to the use of painted movable scenery, it is not possible, from the very circumstances of the case, to believe him correct in his theory. Such a contrivance could not have escaped our ancestors. All the materials were ready to their hands. They had not to invent for themselves—but merely to adapt an old invention to that peculiar purpose; and at a time when every better-furnished apartment was adorned with tapestry; when even the rooms of the commonest taverns were hung with painted cloths; while all the materials were constantly before their eyes, we can hardly believe our forefathers to have been so deficient in ingenuity as to have missed the simple contrivance of converting the common ornaments of their walls into the decorations of their theatres. But, in fact, the use of scenery was almost co-existent with the introduction of dramatic representations in this country. In the Chester Mysteries (1268), the most ancient and complete collection of the kind which we possess, is found the following stage direction:—'Then Noe shall go into the arke with all his family, his wife excepte. The arke must be boarded round about; and upon the boardes all the beastes and fowles, hereafter rehearsed, must be painted, that their wordes may agree with their pictures.' In this passage we have a clear reference to a painted scene. It is not likely that, in the lapse of three centuries, while all other arts were in a state of rapid improvement, and the art of dramatic writing, perhaps, more rapidly and

successfully improved than any other, the art of theatrical decoration should have alone stood still. It is not improbable that their scenes were few; and that they were varied, as occasion might require, by the introduction of different pieces of stage furniture. Mr. Gifford, who adheres to the opinions of Malone, says, 'A table with a pen and ink thrust in, signified that the stage was a counting-house; if these were withdrawn, and two stools put in their place, it was then a tavern.' And this might be perfectly satisfactory as long as the business of the play was supposed to be passing within doors; but when it was removed to the open air, such meagre devices would no longer be sufficient to guide the imagination of the audience, and some new method must have been adopted to indicate the place of action. After giving the subject very considerable attention, I cannot help thinking that Steevens was right in rejecting Malone's theory, and concluding that the spectators were, as at the present day, assisted in following the progress of the story by means of painted movable scenery. This opinion is confirmed by the ancient stage directions. In the folio Shakespeare, 1623, we read, 'Enter Brutus in his orchard; Enter Timon in the woods; Enter Timon from the cave.' In Coriolanus, 'Marcus follows them to the gates and is shut in.' Innumerable instances of the same kind might be cited to prove that the ancient stage was not so defective in the necessary decorations as some antiquaries of great authority would represent. 'It may be added,' says Steevens, 'that the dialogue of our old dramatists has such perpetual reference to objects supposed visible to the audience, that the want of scenery could not have failed to render many of the descriptions absurd. Banquo examines the outside of Inverness castle with such minuteness, that he distinguishes even the nests which the martens had built under the projecting part of its roof. Romeo, standing in a garden, points to the tops of fruit-trees, gilded by the moon. The prologue speaker to the second part of Henry the Fourth, expressly shews the spectators 'This worm-eaten hold of ragged stone,' in which Northumberland was lodged. Iachimo takes the most exact inventory of every article in Imogen's bed-chamber, from the silk and silver of which her tapestry was wrought, down to the Cupids that support her audirons. Had not the inside of the apartment, with its proper furniture, been represented, how ridiculous must the action of Iachimo have appeared! He must have stood looking out of the room for the particulars supposed to be visible within it.' The works of Massinger would afford innumerable instances of a similar kind to vindicate the opinion which Steevens has asserted on the testimony of Shakespeare alone. But on this subject there is one passage which appears to me quite conclusive. Must not all the humour of the mock play in the Midsummer Night's Dream have been entirely lost, unless the audience before whom it was performed were accustomed to all the embellishments requisite to give effect to a dramatic representation, and could consequently estimate the absurdity of those shallow contrivances and mean substitutes for scenery devised by the ignorance of the clowns? In only one respect do I per-

ceive any material difference between the mode of representation at the time of Massinger and at present: in his day the female parts were performed by boys. This custom, which must in many cases have materially injured the illusion of the scene, was in others of considerable advantage: it furnished the stage with a succession of youths, regularly educated for the art, to fill, in every department of the drama, the characters suited to their age. When the lad had become too tall for Juliet, he had acquired the skill, and was most admirably fitted, both in age and appearance, for performing the part which Garrick considered the most difficult on the stage, because it needed 'an old head upon young shoulders,' the ardent and arduous character of Romeo. When the voice had 'the mannish crack,' that rendered the youth unfit to appear as the representative of the gentle Imogen, the stage possessed in him the very person that was wanting to do justice to the princely sentiments of Arviragus or Guiderius.* Such was the state of the stage when Massinger arrived in the metropolis, and dedicated his talents to its service. He joined a splendid fraternity; for Shakespeare, Jonson, Beaumont, Fletcher, Shirley, were then flourishing at the height of their reputation, and the full vigour of their genius. Massinger came among them no unworthy competitor for such honours and emoluments as the theatre could afford. Of the honours, indeed, he seems to have reaped a very fair and equitable portion; of the emoluments, the harvest was less abundant."

It is almost unnecessary for us to add, that the engraved heads, &c. in this volume are equally good as those in the former Numbers. Massinger will be completed by Mr. Harness in another volume; and all that can be given of Ford will follow, it seems, in a third, under the care of Mr. Mitchell, the elegant translator of Aristophanes,—who, indeed, is understood to have a general superintendence of this very important series of the *Family Library*. In due time, Beaumont and Fletcher, Ben Jonson, &c. are to follow, and we hope Shakespeare *ipse*; for there can be no doubt that an edition of the prince of dramatists, presenting not only a purified text, but a series of compact notes, on the plan of this Massinger, is a great desideratum among many classes of society.

Temple's Travels in Peru.

(Second Notice: Conclusion.)

HAVING paid our earliest respects to these lively and entertaining Travels, we must plead the superabundance of the novelties under which we now groan, for making our second notice far more brief than their merits would have called for under other circumstances.

From Potosi the author rode (200 miles) to Oruro, long famous for its tin mines; and on the road he says—

"I observed, for the first time, flocks of alpacas, another species of the llama, but somewhat smaller, and with longer and infinitely finer wool; they are of various colours, but chiefly jet black."

We do not remember to have seen this animal in Europe, though it must be both a beautiful and useful creature. At Oruro our author is eloquent upon a nursing affair, where a fine woman calls her son from his play to be suckled; but we dare not meddle with such subjects: and we proceed on our journey, no matter where.

* The first woman who appeared in a regular drama, on a public stage, played Desdemona, about the year 1660. Her name is unknown.

* This question ought to be set at rest, methinks, by the following extract from the Book of Revels, the oldest that exists, in the office of the auditors of the impost:—"Mrs. Dane, the linnen dealer, for courses to pay for houses for the players, and other properties, as monsters, great hollow trees, and such other, twenty dozen dells, 12d."—See Boswell's Shakespeare, vol. iii. p. 364, et seq.

"I found," says our pleasant guide, "the village of Caracolla crowded with Indians and others; the inhabitants, old and young of both sexes, from the neighbouring and the distant villages, who had assembled in their gayest attire, to celebrate the great holiday of the 'Elevation of the Cross,' which, according to the Roman calendar, this day proves to be. Mass was performed in all the dignity of village pomp; processions followed, in which were groups fantastically dressed in masquerade; some carrying banners, some playing wild music upon flageolets, horns, drums, and trumpets, with the vocal accompaniment of shouts and screams. Their appearance before the house of the curate can scarcely be more accurately described than by the following lines:—

'The men with the kettle-drums enter'd the gate,
Dub-rub-a-dub, dub; the trumpeters follow'd,
Tantara, tantara; then all the boys holla'd.' *Swift.*

Infinite, indeed, was the mirth of all, which was kept up by dancing, singing, and drinking *chicha* to excess. This latter part of the ceremony is never omitted upon the feasts and holidays of these people, which are very seldom known to terminate in those riotous outrages that so frequently occur at popular meetings, in countries where pretensions to civilisation are carried to a greater pitch. *Chicha* is the favourite beverage of the South American Indians, and also of many who consider it an insult to be called Indians. The manner in which it is made, as I have frequently witnessed at Potosi, is as follows:—A quantity of Indian corn is pounded into a fine powder, and placed in a heap, round which as many old women (I always observed they were old women) as can form a convenient circle sit down upon the ground, and, filling their mouths with the powder, chew it into a paste;—perhaps *mumble* would be the appropriate term—for to *chew*, I presume there must be teeth; but in this operation the performers are toothless. When the paste, then, is mumbled to a sufficient consistency, it is taken out of the mouth and rolled between the palms of the hands into a ball, generally about the size of a grape-shot, but varying, of course, according to the capacity of the mouth from which the substance is taken. The balls are piled in a pyramid, until the floor of the *mais* is finished; they are then placed upon a fire to bake. After this, they are put into a given quantity of water, where they ferment; I am not aware that any other ingredient is used. The fermentation forms the beverage called *chicha*, which is the nectar of the Indians; and although inebriating, it is by no means injurious to health. In hot weather, I must acknowledge, notwithstanding the process, which is a most unsightly scene to witness, a draught of *chicha* is extremely grateful; though I know not how to describe the taste, nearer than what may be imagined would be obtained by a mixture of small beer and indifferent cider; yet is it considered as nutritious among the labouring classes as porter is in England.

"After partaking of a very good supper, I spread my horse-sheets in the middle of the floor, and, wrapped in my poncho, with my saddle under my head, in spite of the uproarious mirth of the villagers without, I soon ceased to think of the manners, customs, fancies, antipathies, whims, and oddities of the world, which vary every day we live, and every mile we go. As the night advanced, the merriment of the village festival subsided, and wearied parties gradually filled the house of the curate, to whom, as to me, the roof for a covering, and the floor for a bed, were freely bestowed; and a

much greater number availed themselves of this hospitality than it was ever contemplated, in the construction of the house, should one day be entertained within its walls. The frequent stepping over me and on me, and the whisperings and bustling of the retiring parties, roused me from my comfortable sleep, and occasioned, for a moment, that sort of fretful ill-humour which usually occurs on being unexpectedly or unnecessarily disturbed. It was, however, only for a moment; for upon raising my head and looking round me, a feeling of a very opposite kind was excited by the curious scene in which I found myself the centre. A large church taper—a perquisite, I presume, of his reverence's—was supported on the floor, in the middle of the apartment; I thought of the pillar of light and the Israelites, but for the life of me I cannot tell why. By the glare of this taper I counted seventeen persons, male and female, some of them most fantastically dressed, reposing, and preparing for repose. The men laid themselves down just as they came in and chanced to find a vacant space upon the floor. The females all said an *Ave-Maria*, told their beads, crossed themselves, and undressed; then, placing their thickly-quilted petticoats for a bed, they also lay down, *sans cérémonie*, as they best could, covering themselves with their shawls.

'There they were, the girls and boys,
As thick as hasty-pudding.'

Two young Cholas, fifteen or sixteen years of age, were close at the foot of where I had extended myself for the night; but had they been in the remotest corner of our sty-like dormitory, they must have attracted the particular attention of a stranger. They had, no doubt, been acting some principal characters in the processions of the day, for they represented precisely those figures which we so often see in rather gaudy colours, as emblems of America, and which, with the other quarters of the world, are favourite ornaments in cottages and villages, among the humble amateurs of the fine arts. The Cholas having performed their devotions, and partly divested themselves of their dresses, mutually assisted in arranging and plaiting their long, shining tresses, literally glistening with jet, which partly hung down their finely-formed bronze-coloured shoulders, and partly concealed in front charms of which they themselves, simple village maids! seemed unconscious, but of which an eastern empress might have been justly proud.

"The Chola girls generally, from the age of fourteen to eighteen, have remarkably fine busts, good teeth, well-turned limbs, plump cheeks, &c. and sometimes countenances full of animation, and much pleasing feminine expression. Their raven locks are of most luxuriant growth, and generally descend halfway down the person—

'Increasing beauties they invade;'

but, although they bestow much pains on the hair, they do not in all cases succeed in keeping it perfectly clean; the neatness, however, with which they plait it into tresses, cannot be exceeded by the first-rate artists in the profession of ornamental hair-dressing. I have more than once offered two ounces of gold to Peruvian girls in humble life for their head of hair; and although that sum (between six and seven pounds) would have been wealth to them, it was not sufficient to tempt them, even for a lover's sake, to apply the scissors. The charms and attractions to which I have alluded desert the native females, in this country, at an age in which they may frequently be seen in full bloom in England, where they continue in some cases to attract admiration

even in a green old age. Here they flourish, fade, and die, within the space of a few short years, and a vestige of them is seldom to be seen in an elderly woman."

Two days after this night-scene (which is described at greater length, and with more of incident, than we care to follow), the traveller reached the ruined village of Calamarca: his departure from which affords us an opportunity of contrasting his graver with his gay style.

"By being on my journey a full hour before the morning dawned, I had an opportunity of beholding at sunrise a scene of magnificence scarcely to be surpassed in the world. Its imposing effects upon my mind, when day first developed the object to my view, it is utterly impossible for me to describe; but the scene was this:—High in the blue crystal vault, and immediately before me, as I rode thoughtlessly along, I perceived a brilliant streak resembling burnished gold, dazzling to look on, and wonderfully contrasted with the shades of night, which still lingered upon the object beneath; for to us the sun had not yet risen, though the sombre profiles of the Cordilleras might be distinctly traced through the departing gloom. Imperceptibly the golden effulgence blended with a field of white, glistening in vestal purity, and, expanding downwards, gradually assumed the form of a pyramid of silver, of immeasurable base. I stopped in mute amazement, doubtful of what I beheld. Day gently broke, and the tops of distant mountains glittered in the early beams; the sun then rose, or rather *rushed* upon the silent world, in a full blazing flood of morning splendour, and at the same moment the stupendous Ylimani, the giant of the Andes, in all the pomp of mountain majesty, burst upon my view. My first feeling was a sense of delight, with an expansion of soul producing positive rapture. Never before did I feel myself endowed with equal energy, or experience such an elevation of sentiment. Never did I feel myself less, so quickly did that sentiment subside into devout humility. Admiration, reverence, and awe, with a consciousness of human inferiority, were the mingled feelings of my heart in contemplating this terrestrial manifestation of the glory of God. Here! I exclaimed with fervour and delight—here do I behold the sublime and beautiful, spontaneously produced in the great page of Nature by the omnipotence and providence of Nature's God.

"Chimborazo," (he tells us afterwards), "has long passed for the highest of the Cordilleras; and, until the discovery of the Himalaya, was supposed to be the highest mountain in the world. M. Humboldt, as he himself observes, 'had the pleasure of seeing a greater extent of mountains than any other geognost,' but he did not pursue his travels to this part of the Andes, where subsequent travellers have ascertained the height of the Ylimani to be 21,800 feet above the level of the sea, exceeding that of Chimborazo by 350 feet—no very great difference, it may perhaps be said, in subjects of such vast dimensions; but still, quite sufficient to take from the latter the palm of superlative magnitude and grandeur in the great chain of the Andes. Mr. Pentland, who measured the Ylimani in 1826, gave me his calculations with the remark, that 'they required revision; consequently they were not intended to go forth as accurate. At a subsequent period, I was informed by our chief commissioner, who took a warm interest in these subjects, that the height of the Ylimani

had been given to him as 21,800 feet, which agrees with that given to me by Mr. Pentland, and this appears to be corroborated by the observations of Doctor Redhead. The Ylimani, and the neighbouring mountains, 'are composed of transition slate chiefly, traversed by numerous veins of quartz, containing auriferous pyrites, and gold in small quantities.' That such an immense mountain should be composed of transition slate, instead of granite, has struck some persons as a matter of surprise; it appears, however, that 'the Andes are chiefly composed of porphyry, and not of granite.'

We conclude with the following remarkable particulars of an enormous condor shot by the author.

"In the course of the day I had an opportunity of shooting a condor; it was so satiated with its repast on the carcass of a horse, as to suffer me to approach within pistol-shot before it extended its enormous wings to take flight, which was to me the signal to fire; and, having loaded with an ample charge of pellets, my aim proved effectual and fatal. What a formidable monster did I behold in the ravine beneath me, screaming and flapping in the last convulsive struggles of life! It may be difficult to believe, that the most gigantic animal which inhabits the earth or the ocean can be equalled in size by a tenant of the air; and those persons who have never seen a larger bird than our mountain eagle, will probably read with astonishment of a species of that same bird, in the southern hemisphere, being so large and strong as to seize an ox with its talons, and to lift it into the air, whence it lets it fall to the ground, in order to kill it and to prey upon the carcass. But this astonishment must in a great degree subside, when the dimensions of the bird are taken into consideration, and which, incredible as they may appear, I now insert *verbatim* from a note taken down with my own hand. 'When the wings are spread, they measure sixteen paces (forty feet) in extent, from point to point; the feathers are eight paces (twenty feet) in length, and the quill part two palms (eight inches) in circumference. It is said to have powers sufficient to carry off a live rhinoceros.'

These extracts shew, as well as ten times as many, the various and able ways in which the author treats his subjects; though we might indeed extensively enrich our columns by amusing quotations. But we have, we trust, done enough to give them, as they well deserve, a passport to general circulation.

Principles of Natural Philosophy; or, a New Theory of Physics, founded on Gravitation, and applied in explaining the general Properties of Matter, the Phenomena of Chemistry, Electricity, Galvanism, Magnetism, and Electro-magnetism. By Thomas Exley, A.M., Associate of the Bristol Philosophical and Literary Society. 8vo. pp. 512. London, 1829. Longman and Co.

A New Theory of Physics! this title filled us with uncomfortable apprehensions; but we were relieved a little by finding that the new theory did not profess to be founded on new principles, but on one universally acknowledged, viz. gravitation; and applied here by the author, after a new manner, to explain the general properties of matter, the phenomena of chemistry, and the various sciences mentioned in the title. In reference to these, notwithstanding our recent, and comparatively recent, discoveries, there is still much to be done; many clouds to be dissipated, contending

theories to be carefully examined and their claims adjusted, and the light of science and experiment brought, with its clearest and steadiest rays, to illumine various operations of Nature, which she seems studiously to conceal, before we can say here is a *New Theory of Physics*, founded on a simple principle, which, though in a great measure inexplicable in itself, is by this author successfully applied to explain many of the general properties of matter. If our philosopher succeed in all that he has promised, we shall be among the foremost to return him his motto, and hail him as the happy man who has discovered the hitherto latent causes of so many things so very necessary to a proper understanding of the subjects on which he treats; and which on being much better known, will undoubtedly become more subservient to the general purposes of life, and the benefit of society. But we must confess, that professions of this kind have often disappointed the expectations built on them; and the hope of something solid and useful, as well as new, has been puzzled by the vanishing tenuity of the thread of reasoning which has been drawn out beyond the staple of the argument, till apparent axioms have sunk into postulates, and these have dwindled away into hypotheses, rather darkened by variously interlaced inductive reasonings: and in the end, Ixion-like, we embraced a cloud, or, like the sage of old, terminated our labour with the no-feigned cry of, "All this is vanity and vexation of spirit!"

In respect to novelty, Mr. Exley's work is what it professes to be; for we are not aware that the same views of the essential nature of matter have been taken by any ancient or modern philosopher. It is true that the celebrated theory of Boscovich resembles that of Mr. Exley more than any other; but in several respects it is widely different; and though it has been frequently suggested, that the attraction of gravitation may be the same as that which produces the cohesion of the parts of bodies, and as that by which different bodies combine, generally denominated chemical affinity; yet in the whole range of literary productions we do not recollect that there has been any attempt to solve the phenomena of chemistry, and the various cases of contiguous attraction, on the principles of our author. Buffon, and, after him, Hally and La Place, have given it as their opinion, that the forces of cohesion and chemical affinity are identical with the attraction of gravitation. Bergman, equally eminent, contends for the same views: he says, that, "considering the vast distance of the heavenly bodies, we may neglect the diameters, and look upon them in most cases as gravitating points; but contiguous bodies are to be regarded in a very different light: for the figure and situation, not of the whole only, but of the parts, produce a great variation in the effects."

M. Libes, in his *Nouveau Dictionnaire de Physique*, has attempted to demonstrate the identity of these forces; but the demonstration is conducted in a train of geometrical reasonings, which do not appear to be founded on sufficient physical data. Mr. Exley has proceeded by a very different method:—having assumed the identity of gravitation and attraction at minute distances as a very probable hypothesis, he lays it down as a postulate, and then attempts to explain the phenomena of contiguous attractions on this assumed principle. Success in the investigation is the only circumstance which can establish the assumed principle; and we are ready to acknowledge, that the author has already suc-

ceeded far beyond what we might have reasonably anticipated. Besides the first and grand principle, which respects the law of the material force of attraction and repulsion, a second is added, which respects the quantum of the force and magnitude of the sphere of repulsion. These principles are contained in the two following postulates.

Postulate 1. "Let it be granted, that an atom of matter consists of an indefinitely small sphere of repulsion, which is the central part of an indefinitely extended concentric sphere of attraction; and that its force on the centres of other atoms, every where within the compass of its action, varies inversely as the square of its distance from the centre; being attractive at all points beyond the sphere of repulsion, and repulsive at all points within that sphere."—(This postulate we wish our readers to collate with the author's note A on p. 473.)

Pos. 2. "Let it be granted, that atoms may differ from each other in the radii of their sphere of repulsion, and in their forces at a given distance from their centres."—And we may add the following definitions:

Definition 22. "The sphere of the repulsion of an atom is called its *spherule*."—23. The sphere of attraction of an atom is called its *expanse*."—24. Absolute force of an atom is its force at a given distance from the centre; and this is called its *mass*, or *quantity of matter*."

The term "spherule" is of frequent occurrence in our author's work; but why the "sphere of attraction" is called the "expanse of an atom" we cannot tell; since the term scarcely occurs in any other part of the whole treatise.

It is a well-known fact, that bodies are universally endowed with the properties denominated extension, solidity, vis inertiae, mobility, and divisibility; these properties are, by experiment and observation, clearly ascertained to exist in all bodies, as far as experiment has been, or probably can be, conducted: but we are not aware that they have ever been deduced as the necessary result of any general principles, before the appearance of the present work, in which they are all shewn to be the necessary consequences of the principles assumed in the two postulates already produced. This we consider as a very curious and important fact.

The following phenomenon respects the impenetrability of matter:

Phenomenon 4. "Matter is impenetrable by the definite force of other matter."—*Explanation.* "This must result, on the supposition that the matter which composes bodies is such as is pointed out in the theory; because the force of the atoms at their centres is indefinitely great; and hence the centres, by a finite force, cannot be made to coincide."

The nature of force is certainly unknown; but whatever it may be, we are sensible of its presence whenever we see an action opposed by another action; and we are satisfied that equal and opposite forces and actions annihilate the effects of each other, and produce an equilibrium; and it is seen in the first postulate, that our author considers each atom of matter as consisting of a system of equal forces, acting from all parts equally at the same distance from the centre point, but with increasing energy, in proportion as the square of the distance is diminished. After mature deliberation, it does appear to us exceedingly probable, that all the known properties of bodies may arise from this source. Thus, since the

force is indefinitely greater at the centres of atoms than it is at any assignable distance, and repulsive, such atoms of matter composing bodies must necessarily be impenetrable at those centres. The bodies thus composed will necessarily have extension, since the centres cannot coincide: such bodies will be indivisible to an incalculable degree of tenuity, because the atoms are held together by finite forces. Again, bodies thus composed will be inactive; because the component atoms consist of forces in perfect equilibrium on all sides; hence they cannot change their own state. They must also possess a *vis inertia*, or power of resistance against any force acting on them; because, on whatsoever side the force acts, it meets an opposing force from the contrary side. The weight of bodies is a necessary consequence of the same principle; because every atom will, by its action, tend towards every other; and hence all bodies will be pressed towards the earth. The *vis inertia* will be proportional to the weight, because the weight and *vis inertia* arise precisely from the same forces.

That many phenomena, not before explained on general principles, have, in our opinion, been placed in a clear light in this *New Theory*, it will be sufficient to notice the uniform mixture of different gases; the absorption of caloric in the conversion of solids to liquids, and of liquids to vapours, and the converse; the phenomena of the freezing of water, its expansion, its crystalline form in ice, its cooling, when perfectly still, to eight or ten degrees below the freezing point, its sudden transformation into ice when the surface is slightly agitated even at a single point, and its immediate rise of temperature when thus frozen.

The author seems to have adduced sufficient reasons to shew that a particle of water is composed of two atoms of hydrogen and one of oxygen, though this is at variance with the received opinion, which considers the combination to consist of one atom of each: we conceive, however, that there is no reason for this prevailing opinion, except that of a fancied simplicity; and he also contends, that his view of this combination corresponds more exactly with the phenomena of steam, water, and ice, and with the several phenomena of the peroxide of hydrogen. That bodies should combine in definite proportions, and gases in some simple ratio of their volumes, appears to be an easy deduction from the theory before us.

Want of room prevents us from following the treatise into the cause of electrical and magnetical attractions and repulsions: these have generally been considered as distinct species, producing their actions at sensible and very considerable distances; but in this work they are shewn to be the effects of contiguous attraction and repulsion, and the immediate effects are propagated to a distance through the medium of intervening matter.

Unquestionably this theory places electricity entirely in a new light; and the curious and very interesting facts which it presents no longer stand unconnected as a separate class of phenomena, but are reduced to the general principles of natural science. Till now these phenomena have not been accounted for, but by the help of a hypothetical matter, endowed with properties of a peculiar kind, and quite different from those of common matter; and even by this gratuitous aid they are very imperfectly explained in a great variety of instances.

The operations and results of galvanic action have proved still more perplexing to the experimental philosopher: it has been matter of sur-

prise, and of very difficult explanation, that a system of conducting bodies, such as dissimilar metals and water, should produce an accumulation of the electric fluid at one end of the apparatus; and that when the ends are connected by a conductor, there should exist a constant current of electricity throughout the series.

The celebrated Volta supposed that the mere contact of dissimilar metals produced the electric motion. Dr. Wollaston attributed these phenomena to the oxidation of one of these metals; but the motion of the fluid was not in this case accounted for. Sir H. Davy proposed to combine the two theories: but Mr. Exley explains this curious fact thus:—Suppose that the combinations are copper, zinc, and some diluted acid; the surface of the zinc in contact with the liquid is oxidised, the newly formed particle of oxide requires an additional quantity of electric fluid on its surface as its atmosphere in its natural state; this it will receive more readily from the zinc than from the liquid, both because the metal is a better conductor, and also because it is in closer contact with the oxide; hence the interior of the zinc is rendered negative, as is also the copper with which it is connected; and as the coat of oxide formed is a nonconductor of electricity, of very low intensity, the electricity cannot return to the copper through the zinc, but may proceed in the contrary direction, if a good conductor be interposed; and, in the case of many combinations, a certain difference of electrical power will be maintained between every succeeding pair of metals, and hence there will be produced and supported a uniform gradation of electric power from the first cell to the last; and if the extremities be connected with a good conductor, a current of electric fluid will be produced, and will be continued by the process of the oxidation of the metals.

The decomposition of compound bodies, and the transfer of the disunited elements, are explained by the same principles, in a natural and rational manner; but we must not unravel all the mysteries of so philosophical and interesting a work. The little we have done will prove that it is a very valuable acquisition to the scientific world.

Lloyd's Field Sports of the North of Europe.

(Second and concluding Notice.)

HAVING gone at considerable length into this work last week, we shall now only, in justice to the author and our readers, wind up our review with a few short and entertaining particulars from the second volume.

Of the popular superstitions in Sweden, the following are curious specimens.

"Some of the peasantry are so simple as to go twenty or thirty miles to find out a spring which runs to the north, in order to let the spring-water run through the gun-barrel, while they in the meanwhile say, 'Shoot west—shoot east—shoot south—shoot north,' when the cure is effected. It is also considered a good cure for a gun that does not kill, to put a serpent into the barrel, and shoot it out; in doing which, it has also happened that many barrels have been burst. Several other such fooleries might be mentioned. The peasantry in general believe in witchcraft, and that a good and lucky sportsman can shoot as much as he wishes, and call to him beast and bird, as soon as he has attained to that degree that he has become acquainted with the Lady of the Wood. Once from necessity (says a Mr. Greiff, who tells the story to the author) I had occasion to shew my art of witchcraft. I had, by means of my good partridge-dog (Caresse),

brought to a stand and shot three deer, of which two lay on the spot, and the third at a short distance. Three peasants, with hatchets to fell trees thereabout, came in a friendly manner and saluted me. They knew me well; but when they began to consider whether it was not their land on which the deer lay, I was necessitated to let them understand that I was acquainted with the Lady of the Wood. I had my horses at a hut a short way off, whence I was obliged to fetch them, in order to carry away the deer as fast as possible. In the mean time, I requested one of the peasants to remain, after I had with much ceremony, in the sight of all, plucked a tuft of hair from the largest deer and laid it on the gun-case, gone three times round each deer, and laid a cross on them of wooden pegs, which were split in three places at one end. I then directed him who staid behind to seat himself on the deer until I returned, that no harm should happen to him; which advice he took and followed, and I carried off my deer without opposition."

As bears' grease is an article of great profit to our perfumers and hair-dressers, and as there are many substitutes for that high-priced commodity, we extract the account of its estimation in the land where bears are. The author is describing the finale of some of these animals which had been shot.

"The bears now underwent the process of skinning and cutting up; and as the weather was unfavourable, the operation took place within-doors. The animals were laid on their backs on a table, and, when divested of their skins, they much resembled, in many respects, their breasts and arms in particular, so many human beings. The sight, in consequence, was a rather shocking one, and forcibly reminded me of a disgusting exhibition I had witnessed a few years before, at a celebrated anatomist's in London. The horrors of this, indeed—the macerating tub with its attendant vulture—will never, I think, be effaced from my imagination. The fore-legs of the old bear were uncommonly muscular; and indeed, after seeing them, a person might readily have believed in the amazing prowess ascribed to bears. The state of the intestines of the animals was as I have described in the beginning of this work. The galls we carefully preserved; those being considered in Scandinavia a specific against a variety of disorders; the like was the case with the fat, which is as highly esteemed in Sweden as with us. This, some one says, is possessed of such extraordinary virtue, that if a deal-box be rubbed with it overnight, on the following morning it will be converted into a hair-trunk! Only the fat (*ister*), by the by which is found about the intestines, is used in Scandinavia medicinally, or for the hair; of this there is usually but an inconsiderable quantity. The fat (*fat*) itself, which, on a large bear, may weigh sixty or eighty pounds, is merely used for culinary purposes. The bears' grease we purchase in this country, if bears' grease it really be, is, I have reason to believe, concocted out of the whole of the fat found upon those animals. The hams (those at least that I took possession of) were destined to be smoked. In that state they are considered great delicacies. The remainder of the carcass was either salted, or reserved in its then state. When fresh, I consider the flesh of the bear, which sometimes resembles beef, to be excellent. Indeed, during this particular winter, it constituted a principal part of my food: the paws are thought to be a great dainty."

The observances of Christmas Eve in Sweden are thus related:—

"Great preparations were now made by all classes to celebrate the solemn festival of Christmas. The floors of the rooms, belonging as well to rich as poor, after undergoing a thorough purification, were littered with straw, in commemoration of the birth of our Saviour in a stable. One might also frequently see a number of young pine-trees, of thirty or forty feet in height, which, after having been stripped of their bark and leaves, with the exception of a bunch at the top, were placed in an upright position, at stated intervals, around the dwellings of the peasantry. This custom, for which I could never obtain a satisfactory explanation, is universal in many parts of Dalecarlia. Every good thing that could pamper the appetite, as far as their means went, was likewise put in requisition, as with us in England, at this season. Though they thought of themselves, however, many of the peasants did not forget the inferior order of the creation. Indeed, it was an almost universal custom among them to expose a sheaf of unthrashed corn on a pole in the vicinity of their dwellings, for the poor sparrows and other birds, which, at this inclement period of the year, must be in a state of starvation. They alleged as their reason for performing this act of beneficence, that all creatures should be made to rejoice on the anniversary of Christ's coming among us mortals. I wish I had not to record another circumstance that is not quite so creditable to the peasantry; but, to tell the truth, during the few days the festivities last, they usually make such frequent application to the brandy bottle, that they are far too commonly in a state of intoxication."

The following is very interesting, and may well be compared with the Irish custom of *keening**—both, no doubt, of high Celtic antiquity.

"The established religion in Sweden is, as I have already said, the Lutheran, the forms of which are too well known to need any observations of mine. One custom, however, I noticed in the interior of Wermeland, which may perhaps be worth recording. Near to the conclusion of the service, and after some observations apposite to the occasion, the clergyman read from a paper entitled *personalia* the names of those persons who had recently died within his parish. This contained also many particulars relating to the birth, parentage, &c. of each of the deceased individuals. He then expatiated on their good or bad deeds upon earth, and concluded with some remarks on the uncertainty of life, or other reflections of a similarly impressive nature. I subjoin a *personalia* which I happen to have in my possession, which to some may not be uninteresting. 'There is but a step between me and death,' said a man whose life was at that time in imminent danger; and every-day experience shews the truth of this saying. If we always thought and saw how near death was to us—how near he follows our steps—how soon he comes up with us—then we should tread the uncertain path of life with more caution, and count the passing moments, and contemplate with awe his inevitable coming. Of what immense importance is this step! We must all take it, and how soon it is taken! In one moment we are snatched from the theatre of life, on which we appeared as passing shadows! What a difference between the light of day and the darkness of night—the warmth of life and the chill of death—the animating feeling of exist-

ence and the mouldering grave! We have now before us a melancholy instance of the uncertainty of human life. A young man, in the bloom of youth, in the full enjoyment of health and vigour, is in a few moments bereft of existence—lifeless. What an example does that corpse exhibit to us! What does it say to us, though dumb? What I have just said, 'There is only one step between me and death.' He that has now taken this last earthly step, and whose remains we have this day consigned to the grave, was Olof Carlsson, from Bu-torp, eldest son of Carl Dicksson and his wife Christina. He was born the 22d of October, 1810, and was drowned in the river Uf, the thirtieth of last month, being then in the eighteenth year of his age. This unlooked-for event is to be deeply lamented for many reasons. All participate in your sorrows, disconsolate parents! You are advanced in years. Heavy will be the afflictions of your old age, now that they can no longer be lightened by the hand of your child. You had, without doubt, fondly anticipated that he would have been the prop of your declining years, when you were tottering on the brink of the grave, and have rendered you the last sad offices by closing your eyes. For many reasons, the departed has made himself worthy of our regrets. One of the sublimest and, alas! unusual epitaphs of our days which we can inscribe to his memory as an example for the present and future generation is, that he was never known to take the Lord's name in vain. For this he deserves our unqualified praise, that sin being unhappily so prevalent. According to the concurrent testimony of every one, the life of the deceased, in other respects, was irreproachable. He was always to be seen near his aged parents. The evening of the day may be different from the morning. Every one knows in what short space of time this unhappy occurrence took place. Thus hastily was the prop of your old age, and the good example for youth, hurried into another life. But you sigh heavily! Do you think he is gone for ever? I will pour balsam into your bleeding heart; the departed live, and we become immortal through death. He is only gone a little while before you. When you have finished your course on earth, you will find him in the blessed abodes of eternity. And time flies so fast, that perhaps in a few moments some of us will be reckoned among the dead.' Collections were made during the service for the poor. This was effected by the churchwarden or others handing round to the several pews a rather handsome bag or purse, attached to a long wand, into which each individual dropped his mite. To this purse a little bell was affixed, the tinkling of which I used to think a little interfered with the solemnity of the occasion. In the front of the church, also, a box was attached, the lid of which was strongly secured by locks and bars, into which the charitable might make their donations. If the peasantry be standing near to the church when the bells ring, they all take off their hats. This custom, which is common in Catholic countries, I little expected to see among people professing the reformed religion."

Our next extract refers to a very strange and rather disgusting sort of plaster: we had no idea that the cat possessed healing equal to his scratching powers—but so, it seems, is the fact.

"In general, sportsmen entertain a dislike to cats, because they destroy much game; but circumstances likewise occur, which remind

mortals that every thing is good which God has created. For example: it happened that a young sportsman of fifteen years old, whom I still know very well, had got a dreadful pain in his left knee, and, by a contraction of the sinews, was forced to use crutches; and the doctors had given their sentence that this would be his fate through life. Some one had heard the officers who were in the Pomeranian war of 1757, relate, that soldiers who from fatigue had got pains in the sinews, had used dog and calf-skins just taken off and warm, which had given them ease; an idea was therefore started, that the cat, which is of a still warmer nature, would be more serviceable, especially if the whole cat was used. The hard sentence and intolerable pain made him determine to make every possible attempt to obtain a cure or alleviation. The patient therefore removed out into a tent, had a cat's head cut off, ripped open the body, and, with intestines and all, laid it round his knee, and fastened it with several handkerchiefs. When it had remained for twenty-four hours, the knee got more supple; the next day, the leg could be stretched out altogether, and a hole broke out of itself, in the dreadful swelling, from which much matter ran out. The third day the cat was removed. The patient dressed himself and went, without stick or crutch, up to his parents and some strangers, who with joy beheld the miracle. All the pores on which the cat lay, appeared to have opened; and the cat had nearly turned into putrefaction, so that others could with difficulty approach the tent. The cure was effected in 1772. The old patient is still alive, and has, at seventy years of age, and after terrible fatigues, both as a soldier and a sportsman, never had the smallest pain in that knee."

Of the badger we are told:

"His fat is incomparable for rubbing into leather; it is also good in lamps. Its flesh is very eatable, when parboiled in hay-seed water, or still better in salt water, and afterwards roasted and left to cool, and used for luncheon: it has then been looked upon by judges as a real delicacy; but it must be the flesh of young badgers. The skin is used for gun-cases, game-bags, and to cover trunks; and the best shaving-brushes are made from its hair."

And now to conclude with wolves: we select a couple of the many tales of their ferocity.

"In Russia, some years ago, a woman, accompanied by three of her children, were one day in a sledge, when they were pursued by a number of wolves. On this, she put the horse into a gallop, and drove towards her home, from which she was not far distant, with all possible speed. All, however, would not avail, for the ferocious animals gained upon her, and, at last, were on the point of rushing on the sledge. For the preservation of her own life and that of the remaining children, the poor frantic creature now took one of her babes, and cast it a prey to her blood-thirsty pursuers. This stopped their career for a moment; but after devouring the little innocent, they renewed the pursuit, and a second time came up with the vehicle. The mother, driven to desperation, resorted to the same horrible expedient, and threw her ferocious assailants another of her offspring. To cut short this melancholy story, her third child was sacrificed in a similar manner. Soon after this, the wretched being, whose feelings may more easily be conceived than described, reached her home in safety. Here she related what had happened, and endeavoured to palliate her own conduct, by describing the dreadful alter-

* Upon this subject we would refer to a very original and interesting paper by Mr. Crofton Croker, in the No. of Fraser's Magazine for the present month—Ed. L. G.

native to which she had been reduced. A peasant, however, who was among the bystanders, and heard the recital, took up an axe, and with one blow cleft her skull in two; saying, at the same time, that a mother who could thus sacrifice her children for the preservation of her own life, was no longer fit to live. This man was committed to prison, but the emperor subsequently gave him a pardon.—The same gentleman from whom I received the preceding, related to me another curious circumstance regarding wolves: it happened at no great distance from St. Petersburg, only two years previously. A peasant, when one day in his sledge, was pursued by eleven of those ferocious animals: at this time, he was only about two miles from home, towards which he urged his horse at the very top of his speed. At the entrance to his residence was a gate, which happened to be closed at the time; but the horse dashed this open, and thus himself and his master found refuge within the courtyard. They were followed, however, by nine out of the eleven wolves; but, very fortunately, at the instant these had entered the enclosure, the gate swung back on its hinges, and thus they were caught as in a trap. From being the most voracious of animals, the nature of these beasts, now that they found escape impossible, became completely changed: so far, indeed from offering molestation to any one, they slunk into holes and corners, and allowed themselves to be slaughtered almost without making resistance."

In Stockholm, and through various journeys into Norway, and elsewhere, the general information given to us by Mr. Lloyd is very pleasing and intelligent; but we shall end as we began, referring our readers to his volumes for their interest on other points, and not trespassing upon our sporting illustrations, farther than we have already done relative to the more peculiar customs of the people.

Sir Walter Scott's History of Scotland.

[Second notice.—Conclusion.]

WE turn now towards the most interesting period of Scottish history—that of the unfortunate Mary, in which we confess Sir Walter has somewhat disappointed us by the view he has taken. To illustrate this, we select a few quotations. The character of the Queen of England is thus drawn:—

"It may be said of Elizabeth, that if ever there was a monarch whose conduct seemed, according to the speech of the old heathen, to be governed alternately by two souls of a very different disposition and character, the supposition might be applied to her. Possessing more than masculine wisdom, magnanimity, and fortitude, on most occasions, she betrayed, at some unhappy moments, even more than female weakness and malignity. Happy would it have been for both queens had Mary's request for counsel and assistance reached Elizabeth whilst she was under the influence of her better planet. The English sovereign might then, with candour and good faith, have availed herself of the opportunity to conciliate the genuine friendship, and to acquire the gratitude of her youthful relation, by guiding her to such a match as would have best suited the interests and assured the amity of the sister nations. Unfortunately, Elizabeth remembered with too much acuteness Mary's offensive pretensions to the crown of England; pretensions which were founded on the defect of her own title and the illegitimacy of her birth, and she already regarded the Queen of Scotland rather as a rival to be subdued, than a friend to be

conciliated. Besides, as a votress of celibacy, Queen Elizabeth was not greatly disposed to forward any marriage, more especially that of a princess who stood to her in the painful relation of a kinswoman possessing a claim to her throne, and a neighbour of her own sex and rank, between whom and herself comparisons must needs be frequently drawn with respect to wit, beauty, and accomplishments. The line of conduct prompted by these jealous feelings impelled Queen Elizabeth to embrace the opportunity, afforded by Mary's desiring her opinion upon her marriage, to cross, baffle, and disconcert any negotiations which might be entered into on that topic. For this purpose, after observing a great deal of oracular mystery, in order to protract matters, Elizabeth gave it as her advice, that Mary would do well to choose for her husband the Earl of Leicester, as a person on whom she herself would willingly have conferred her own hand, but for her resolution to live and die a maiden queen."

If such be the true character of one of the greatest queens that ever reigned, though gallantry may start at the remark, we must consider it to be a powerful argument against the placing of sovereign power in female hands. On this point we would say, as a political axiom, that absolute power ought rarely to be intrusted to man—to woman never; or rather, that very few men ever have wielded, or ever can wield, a despotic sceptre with advantage to a country,—and no woman —!!*

In his sketch of Mary, the writer principally follows Sir James Melville, whose account of her is one of the Bannatyne reprints to which we have alluded.

"We have now," says Sir W., "arrived at a point of our history, where we must either add another volume to a controversy which has produced so many, or by compressing into a concise form the events of the mournful tale, and expressing our own general opinion as it arises out of them, refer the readers who may doubt our conclusions, and desire means by which to form their own, to the works in which the charge has been urged, and the defence maintained. Indeed, no inquiry or research has ever been able to bring us either to that clear opinion upon the guilt of Mary which is expressed by many authors, or guide us to that triumphant conclusion in favour of her innocence of all accession, direct or tacit, to the death of her husband, which others have maintained with the same obstinacy. Arguing from probabilities, where there are but few ascertained facts to guide us, we have been led to adopt the opinion expressed by Scottish juries, in a verdict of 'not proven,' when they are disposed to say that there is an insufficiency of proof to ascertain the guilt of an accused person, while there yet exist such shades of suspicion as do not warrant his discharge without some formal expression of the doubts which the inquest entertain of his guilt or innocence."

And again:—"It may be asked, what conclusion are readers of the present day to draw from these proceedings? and are we, with one

* If we are found guilty of a want of due respect to the sex in this, we would shelter ourselves under the example of the chivalrous bard of Scotia. Speaking of Elizabeth's signing Mary's death-warrant, he says, "Nevertheless, this train of hypocritical dissimulation, meant to express the exceeding grief of Elizabeth's mind at being in a manner compelled by authority of parliament to proclaim the sentence, did not escape the malign construction, that the queen had acted in this instance like a *true woman*, who will seem to reject and disapprove of that which she most desires, in order that it may be forced upon her. The proclamation of the sentence contained similar expressions of the queen's reluctance, which met with the same degree of credulity."

class of writers, to conceive Queen Mary an injured saint, or with another the most prodigate of women? We confess that, without more light than we at present possess, or ever hope to see thrown on a subject of so mysterious a character, we incline to think that on both sides this memorable case has been pleaded to extremity. The beauty, the wit, and, in general, the amiable character of Mary, has raised up for her memory defenders of equal talents and zeal. But if we review the queen's conduct from the debate at Craigmillar, concerning the proposed divorce betwixt her and Darnley, it is difficult to believe that she must not have entertained suspicions, that many persons of an unscrupulous character were not indisposed, when that measure was rejected, to remove the unfortunate prince from his share of the throne by the readiest and most violent means, if legal and justifiable expedients would not serve the turn. The reconciliation between the husband and wife, after their long estrangement, which was patched up so suddenly and immediately before the murder, the violence offered to the queen's person by Bothwell, and so tamely acquiesced in by a female of such high rank and energetic character, are to us irresistible evidence that Mary, deeply injured by her ungrateful husband, and engaged by an unhappy attachment to one of the most wicked of men, suffered Darnley, without warning or succour, to fall into the conspirators' snares, if, indeed, she did not herself entice him into the toils. Revenge and love are great casuists; and supposing Mary so far concerned in Darnley's death as to foresee its approach without endeavouring to prevent it, she might endeavour to justify her conduct to herself, by considering that by his accession to the murder of her servant in her own presence, her ungrateful husband deserved death, and that she at least was not obliged to give the alarm when a deserved punishment seemed about to overwhelm him. The evident favour shewn to Bothwell on his sham trial, the too obvious farce of the seizure of the queen at Fountain Bridge, and her subsequent marriage with Bothwell, all lead to the same melancholy conclusion. And when we recollect that Mary had been educated in the profligate court of Catherine of Medici, and was surrounded in her own by some of the worst and most wicked men who ever lived, he who can suppose that, tempted by love and revenge, she walked through the maze of iniquity occurring betwixt Rizzio's death and her marriage with Bothwell without soiling the purity of her mind with the guilt which was so thick around her path, must have unusual confidence in human nature."

It will strike our readers, that in this second extract, only twenty-five pages distant from the first, Sir Walter Scott seems to have forgotten his "not proven," and, with something like inconsistency, distinctly inferred the guilt of the persecuted queen. For ourselves, we must profess to be of those who cannot agree with his harsher conclusions; but we close the subject with his able observations on the shameful execution of the captive princess.

"Thus died Mary Queen of Scots,—many parts of whose earlier life remain an unexplained riddle to posterity, which men have construed, and will construe, more according to their own feelings and passions than with the calm sentiments of impartial judges. The great error of marrying Bothwell, stained as he was by universal suspicion of Darnley's murder, is a spot upon her character for which we in vain seek an apology. Certainly the poor trick of

the bond subscribed at Ainalie's supper cannot greatly mitigate our censure, which is still less evaded by the pretended compulsion exercised towards the queen, when she was transported by Bothwell to Dunbar. What excuse she is to derive from the brutal ingratitude of Darnley; what from the perfidy and cruelty of the fiercest set of nobles who existed in any age; what from the manners of a time in which assassination was often esteemed a virtue, and revenge the discharge of a debt of honour,—must be left to the charity of the reader. This may be truly said, that if a life of exile and misery, endured with almost saintly patience, from the 15th of June, 1567, until the day of her death, upon the 8th of February, 1586, could atone for crimes and errors of the class imputed to her, no such penalty was ever more fully discharged than by Mary Stuart."

From the sad contemplation of this tragedy, we turn, for a few minutes, ere we conclude, to less painful topics. The annexed is an amusing anecdote of James VI.

"If we can trust a current tradition, contests between the pulpit and the throne occurred more than once in the face of the congregation. It is said, a young preacher, dilating before James's face on some matter highly offensive to him, the monarch lost patience, and said aloud, 'I tell thee, man, either to speak sense or come down.' To which reasonable request, as it might be thought, the preacher stoutly replied, 'And I tell thee, man, I will neither speak sense nor come down.'"

The circumstances of James's marriage are also very amusing; but we have not room for them. The history concludes with his accession to the united crowns, and is thus told, with a touch of the picturesque, so characteristic of the author in his works of every kind.

"Wednesday the 4th of April, 1603, James set forwards to occupy the new kingdom, which after so many years of expectation had, like ripe fruit, dropped thus quietly into his lap. His train, from taste as well as policy, was rather gay and splendid than numerous and imposing. Two circumstances occurred on the morning of his departure, either of which would have seemed ominous to an ancient Roman. As the king and his train approached the house of Seaton, the solemn funeral of a man of high rank, adorned with all the gloomy emblems of mortality, interrupted his passage; it was that of Lord Seaton, who had been one of the best, most disinterested, and most faithful adherents among those who held up the banner of James's mother. The deceased lord had sustained a full share in Mary's misfortunes, being obliged to retire to Flanders, where he was reduced to subsist himself by driving a waggon; in which character and occupation he had himself painted on his restoration to his rank and fortune. The king halted his retinue, and sat down upon a stone, long afterwards shewn, while the funeral of this faithful adherent of his family moved past. The sight was strikingly well qualified to impress upon James, in the moment that he was taking possession of such a high addition to his power, the recollection of the mutability of human affairs. The other is a Jacobite tradition, but has been generally received as a real one. It is said, that as the gentry and freeholders of the country came to wait upon the king, on his departure towards England, and escort him a few miles upon his way, there was one aged gentleman, who, very different from the gay array and festival habits of those around him, appeared attired in the deepest mourning.

Being asked the meaning of so unbecoming a dress on so happy an occasion: 'I have known this road,' he said, 'to England, and have travelled it in my former days, as we now do, under the royal banner; I was then as well mounted and armed as became my fortune and quality; but we were then bent upon honourable war with our national enemies: at present, when we come to transfer our king to the English, and yield up to a people who could never conquer us in war the power of lording it over us as a province, I come in sorrow for my country's lost independence, in a dress becoming one who waits upon the funeral of a mother.' The speech was certainly rash and prejudiced, yet it was not the less, in some sort, true; for many were the evils which attended the first junction of the kingdoms into one, and scarcely fewer those which attended the incorporating union which followed at the interval of a century. These disadvantages, indeed, were finally incalculably overbalanced by the subsequent benefits of these important events; but the consideration would lead us much further than the limits of this work permit. We shall, therefore, only say, that King James entered the town of Berwick amid the thunder of the cannon planted to defend that town against his ancestors, and was received in the principal church by the Bishop of Durham, who performed a thanksgiving service upon the occasion. And with the sovereign's occupation of a more wide dominion over a wealthier people, naturally closes the history of Scotland as a free and independent state."

With this we close our easy labour; for it is hardly worth while to animadvert on the inaccuracies in style which have occasionally escaped revision, and indicate haste in the composition of the work.* But we were rather surprised, after the *ex cathedra* sentence upon the proper orthography of the royal name, to find it in this volume spelt indifferently *Stewart* and *Stuart*. If the matter is worth any thing, it is surely worth uniformity; and the want of it shews that the pains of reconstruction have not been applied throughout. But these are specks of a very trivial kind; and we are sure the public will be delighted with the smooth and agreeable flow pervading this history, and with the negligent air (if we may use the expression) which beguiles the attention into the same pleasing acquiescence, yet attended by deep interest, that are so peculiarly the charms of all the writings of Sir Walter Scott.

Gertrude; a Tale of the Sixteenth Century. 2 vols. 12mo. London, 1830. Colburn and Bentley.

A BEAUTIFUL and romantic tale; written in the true spirit of the age it illustrates. Henry IV. (of France) is the hero; a dark-eyed Spaniard and a blue-eyed countess are the heroines; and he must be a severer critic than we are, who is not fascinated with the charms of both. The

* To prove that we do not blame without cause, however, we merely transcribe two short sentences:—"He summoned together his vassals, and menaced an attack upon the new Earl of Murray and the forces who escorted the sovereign's person." "Insolent and imperious in his temper, Darnley endured no check, however kindly given, and sought the crown matrimonial (implying an equal share with the queen in the sovereignty) with so much eagerness and impatience as greatly disgusted Mary. In fine, she became weary of the society of a man who could not govern himself, and would not be ruled by his benefactress or any one else. How can this be wonderful? since, while Mary did every thing to please him, Darnley could not be prevailed on to yield to her in the smallest point, either to shew his affection as a husband, or his duty as a subject."

language is graceful, approaching sometimes even to poetry; and the scenes in which the manners of the age are portrayed, are as picturesque as the scenes themselves. The interest depending on the development of the story, we have preferred giving an opinion to giving a quotation.

Sidney Anecdotes, &c. Part I. 18mo. pp. 180. M. U. Sears.

THIS little book is a selection of historical anecdotes, after the manner of the *Percy Anecdotes*. The present Part is furnished from that interminable mass, the follies of mankind, and contains many hundred amusing instances of this human inheritance. The embellishments are pretty; and the publication, judging from its *début*, seems worthy to share the popularity of its precursor and prototype.

The History of the University of Edinburgh, &c. By Alexander Bower, Author of the "Life of Luther," &c. Vol. III. 8vo. pp. 384. Edinburgh, 1830. Waugh and Innes.

NOT having seen the preceding volumes of this work, we can only speak at hazard of its general merits: but the volume now before us has afforded us much gratification by its biographical sketches of the leading men belonging to the University for the last half century, and much information relative to the public institutions of the northern capital.

A Short View of the History of Free Masonry. By W. Sandys, F. A. S. P. M. Grand Master's Lodge. 8vo. pp. 62. London, 1830. Crew and Spencer.

A CONCISE but curious view of those ancient institutions which preceded and led to the establishment of Free Masons; and also some interesting particulars relative to the earliest Lodges. The first authentic account of the introduction of Free Masons into England as a body is in the year 674, when Hexham church was built by the celebrated Wilfrid, Archbishop of York,—and both before and after this period these craftsmen enjoyed many immunities, and greatly contributed to advance the art of architecture. Free Masonry flourished especially in Scotland; but we must refer to Mr. Sandys for the details.

ARTS AND SCIENCES. ROYAL INSTITUTION.

MR. WATSON on his plan for preventing ships foundering at sea. This plan consists in introducing air-tight copper tubes in the spaces between the beams of the decks; also between the timbers, or ribs, the shelf-pieces, and the planking, and in all other places between the decks which may be thus occupied without inconvenience. These tubes are intended to contain a bulk or quantity of atmospheric air, equal to counterbalance that extra portion of the weight, or specific gravity of the ship and her contents, which otherwise, in case of leaks, and the ship filling with water, would cause her to sink. There can be no doubt of the efficacy of the principle. With the view of affording a practical elucidation of his plan, Mr. Watson constructed a model, in due proportion to the dimensions and actual weight of an 80-gun ship when equipped for a four months' voyage. This model having a leak in her bottom, when placed in water without the tubes sank immediately; but with the tubes affixed to the main, the middle, and the lower decks, she floated with a power of buoyancy

so great, that, on being forcibly pressed under water, she again rose to the same point of elevation as before, viz. with the main-deck above the surface. Mr. Watson entered into a statement of the ships, both war and merchantmen, which had been wrecked, burnt, or foundered, between the years 1793 and 1826; from which it appeared, that during the above period no fewer than 373 of the former class of vessels, and 557 of the latter, had been destroyed. The observations and experiments gave much satisfaction to the auditory.

A beautiful microscope, upon the principle of Dr. Wollaston's doublet, and constructed by Captain Grover, was placed by that gentleman on the library table. Its magnifying powers appear to be great and perfect.

A gold medal, as a reward for chemical discoveries, having been placed at the disposal of the managers of the Royal Institution, by the munificence of Mr. Fuller, of Rose Hill, at a recent general meeting of the members, the Duke of Somerset, as president of the Institution, presented it to Mr. W. H. Pepsy, to whom it had been awarded by a committee appointed for the purpose. The report of that committee, consisting of eminent chemists and men of science, was highly honourable to Mr. Pepsy; it stated, as the ground of the award, his various and highly ingenious researches in chemical science, and especially referred to his meritorious inventions of new eudiometers and gazometers, &c. &c. The election of the committee could not, perhaps, easily have fallen upon an individual who had better claim to the distinction of their first award. Mr. Pepsy was one of the earliest and most active of the promoters of the Royal Institution, and was not unfrequently associated in experimental inquiries with the great chemist, now no more, whose brilliant discoveries must ever shed a lustre upon that establishment.

The Fuller Medal is a very beautiful production of that distinguished medallist, Mr. Wyon. On the obverse is a head of Lord Bacon, in bold relief; and on the reverse, an appropriate inscription surrounded by a wreath of palm and laurel.

COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS.

ON Monday evening a very numerous assembly was held: Sir Henry Hallford, Bart., in the chair. Amongst the distinguished individuals present, we noticed his Grace the Duke of Somerset, the Bishops of London and Bristol, the Dean of Chester, Sir R. K. Porter, &c. Dr. Francis Hawkins, the Registrar of the College, read a paper, communicated by Dr. Barry, lately a Member and Secretary of the Commission appointed to inquire into the causes of the epidemic which has prevailed with so much violence at Gibraltar. In this paper, Dr. Barry, after giving a minute account of the first breaking out of the disease, and its symptoms, clearly shewed that it originated, not in several parts, but in one quarter of the town; and that in all the instances of its occurring in that quarter, some communication might be traced with certain vessels arriving from Havannah and the West Indies, on board of which it was ascertained that cases of fever had existed. He shewed, also, that the climate, cleanliness, buildings, sewers, supply of provisions, &c. had all been in a progressing state of improvement; so that the origin of the disease could not be traced to any local cause whatever. The disease was first considered as a remittent fever, and not contagious; hence no precautions were taken. It consisted of a single paroxysm, terminating in complete recovery, or death, in

about from two to six days: it was universally attended with yellowness of the skin. But by far the most important circumstance was established by Dr. Pym; viz. that the disease cannot attack an individual a second time. Hence, by separating the infected from the healthy—using as the means of separation those who have acquired the necessary immunity—its progress may be stopped, and has been stopped, in Gibraltar, as well as in Spain and Barbadoes. The paper enumerated three plans of treatment: the first was the mercurial; the second, repeated bleeding; and the third, oily purgatives, with acid diluents. Dr. Barry was of opinion, that the third plan was the most effectual.

The Registrar also read a memoir, communicated by Mr. Mayo, Professor of Anatomy to the Royal College of Surgeons, descriptive of the Siamese Boys. From the account given of the anatomical connexion between these two youths, the professor concludes, that any attempt to separate them, while both are living, would be full of danger, and perfectly unjustifiable. Some interesting remarks were made on their temper, manners, and habits. It appears that they have a high regard for truth, and believe in a future state of rewards and punishments. Captain Coffin, the intelligent person who has the charge of the boys, introduced them into the Hall of the College, to illustrate the account which had been given.

ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

MR. GORDON having presented his report on the state of the Horticultural Society, proceeded a little farther westward, and attended the last meeting of the Zoological Society, in Bruton Street. The Dean of Carlisle presided. We pass over the routine business of the meeting. A monthly report was read, which shewed that an assistant secretary had been appointed, at a salary of about 300*l.* per annum, pursuant to a resolution of the council. Stock had been sold to the extent of 2,000*l.* to furnish wherewithal to pay the Society's debts, which had been paid accordingly. In answer to a question regarding the farm at Kingston, Lord Auckland stated, that if it did not turn out well, it could easily be abandoned. The Society's annual outlay was estimated at 7,000*l.*, and the receipts of last year amounted to 14,000*l.* A Mr. Duke called for the expulsion of Mr. Sabine; Lord Auckland defended that gentleman, and appeared to be joined by a number of the Fellows of the Society. In the course of the meeting, Mr. Gordon expressed himself satisfied with the state of the Society's accounts. A motion of his, to admit the public to the Gardens in the Regent's Park on Sundays, was strenuously opposed and negatived. Upon the whole, it appears that this Institution is well managed, and flourishing.

ANCIENT AND MODERN EGYPT.

M. Champollion's Eighteenth Letter, continued.

THE walls of the four galleries of this court retain all their ornaments. Grand and vast pictures, sculptured and painted, excite in every part the curiosity of travellers. The eye reposes on the beautiful azure of the ceilings, ornamented with stars of a golden yellow colour; but the importance and variety of the scenes which have been produced by the chisel soon absorb the whole attention.

Four pictures, forming the lower register of the gallery of the East on the left side, and a part of the gallery of the South, exhibit the principal occurrences of a war by Rhameses-Meiamoun against certain Asiatic nations cal-

led Robou, of fair complexion, aquiline nose, long beard, covered with a large tunic, and an upper garment crossed transversely with blue and white stripes. This costume is exactly similar to that of the Assyrians and the Medes, represented on the cylinders called Babylonian, or Persepolitan.

First picture.—A great battle. The Egyptian hero, standing upright in a car on the full gallop, discharges his arrows upon a crowd of enemies, who are flying in the greatest disorder. In the distance are the Egyptian chiefs in cars; and their troops, intermingled with their allies, the Fekkaros, massacring the terrified Robous, or binding them as prisoners of war. This picture alone contains above a hundred figures on foot, without reckoning the horses.

Second picture.—The princes and the chiefs of the Egyptian army conduct four columns of prisoners to the victorious king. Scribes count and register the number of right hands and genital parts which have been cut from the dead Robous on the field of battle. The inscription is: "Prisoners conducted to the presence of his majesty, a thousand; lopped hands, three thousand; *phalli*, three thousand." The Pharaoh at whose feet these trophies are deposited, tranquilly seated in a car, the horses of which are held by officers, addresses himself to his warriors; congratulating them on their victory, and with great *naïveté* bestowing the highest eulogiums on himself. "Give yourselves up to joy," he exclaims to them, "let it resound to heaven. The foreigners have been overwhelmed by my force: the terror of my name came, and filled their souls; I rushed on them like a lion; I pursued them like a hawk; I annihilated their criminal spirits; I crossed their rivers; I burnt their fortresses; I am to Egypt what the god Mandou was; I have vanquished the barbarians; Amon-Ra, my father, has subdued the whole world under my feet, and I am king on the throne for ever."

On the outside of this curious picture there is a long inscription, unfortunately much damaged, relative to this campaign, which is dated in the fifth year of the reign of Rhameses-Meiamoun.

Third picture.—The conqueror, with his whip in his hand, and guiding his horses, returns into Egypt. Groups of prisoners in chains precede his car; officers spread large umbrellas over the Pharaoh's head; the distance is occupied by the Egyptian army, divided into platoons, and marching regularly in line, according to the rules of modern tactics.

Fourth picture.—Finally, Rhameses triumphantly re-enters Thebes. He appears on foot, conducting in his suite three columns of prisoners, before the temple of Amon-Ra and the goddess Mouth. The king harangues the divinities, and receives in reply the most flattering assurances.

An immense composition fills all the upper register of the north gallery and the east gallery, on the right of the principal door. It is a public ceremony, at which no fewer than two hundred persons are present, on foot. This pompous procession comprehends all whom Egypt contains of great and illustrious. It is the triumph of Rhameses-Meiamoun, and the patergry celebrated by the sovereign and his people, to thank the divinity for the constant protection which he had afforded to the Egyptian arms. A line of large hieroglyphics, sculptured above the picture, and extending its whole length, announces that this patergry (HBAI) in honour of Ammon-Horus, (the A

and the U of Egyptian theology) took place at Thebes, on the first day of the month of paschons. This legend contains besides a minute analysis of the vast picture underneath. It is, as it were, the entire programma of the ceremony.

The rapid detail which I shall give of it here will be only a translation of this legend, or that of the numerous inscriptions sculptured in the bas-relief near each personage, and above the principal groups.

Rhameses-Méiamoun comes forth from his palace, borne in a naos,—a kind of car, richly ornamented, supported by twelve *oeris*, or military chiefs; his head decorated with ostrich feathers. The monarch, bearing all the marks of his royal authority, is seated on an elegant throne, which images of justice and truth overshadow with their extended wings. The sphinx, the emblem of wisdom united with strength, and the lion, the symbol of courage, stand near the throne, which they seem to protect. Officers wave round the naos, flabella and common fans. Young children of the sacerdotal order walk near the king, carrying his sceptre, his bow-case, and his other insignia.

Nine princes of the royal family, the high functionaries of the sacerdotal cast, and military chiefs, follow the naos on foot, arranged in two lines. Warriors carry the socles and the steps of the naos. The procession is closed by a platoon of soldiers. Groups, all equally varied, precede the Pharaoh: a band of music, in which may be recognised the flute, the trumpet, the drum, and choristers, forms the head of the train; then come the relations and intimate friends of the king, among whom are several pontiffs; and lastly, Rhameses' eldest son, the chief of the army after him, burns incense before his father.

The king arrives at the temple of Ammon-Horus, approaches the altar, pours libations, and burns incense; twenty-two priests bear, on a rich palanquin, the statue of the god, which advances in the midst of flabella, fans, and boughs of flowers. The king, on foot, having on his head a simple diadem of the inferior region, precedes the god; and immediately follows the white bull, the living symbol of Ammon-Horus, or Amon-Ra, the husband of his mother. A priest administers incense to the sacred animal; the queen, Rhameses' wife, shews herself, towards the upper part of the picture, as a spectator of the religious pomp; and while one of the pontiffs reads with a loud voice the prescribed invocation, when the torch of the god crosses the threshold of his temple, nineteen priests advance, bearing the different sacred banners, the vases, the show-tables, and all the other apparatus of worship; seven other priests open the religious train, bearing on their shoulders little statues, the images of the kings who were the ancestors and predecessors of Rhameses-Méiamoun, assisting at the triumph of their descendant.

Here takes place a ceremony, the nature of which has been strangely misunderstood. Two sacred banners, belonging to the god Ammon-Horus, are raised above two altars. Two priests, distinguishable by their shaven heads, and still better by their titles inscribed beside them, turn about to hear the orders of the grand pontiff, the president of the panegyry, who holds in his hand the sceptre called *pat*, the indication of his high functions; a third priest liberates four birds, who fly into the air.

Mistaking the pontiff's sceptre for a knife, the two priests for two victims, and the birds for the emblem of the souls escaping from the bodies of two wretches murdered by a barbarous

superstition, it has been supposed that human sacrifices were here represented. But an inscription sculptured before the hieroglyphic who assists at the ceremony, removes our apprehensions, and proves the complete innocence of the scene, by putting us in full possession of its details and of its object.

The following is the translation of the inscription, the arrangement of which I have also observed:—

“The president of the panegyry said:

‘Give flight to the four geese,

Amset	Sis	Soumants	Kebhsniv
Direct yourselves towards the South	Direct yourselves towards the North	Direct yourselves towards the West	Direct yourselves towards the East
tell the gods of the South	tell the gods of the North	tell the gods of the West	tell the gods of the East

that Horus, the son of Isis and Osiris, wears the pschent; that King Rhameses wears the pschent.”

It is evident from this, that the four birds represent the children of Osiris; Amset, Sis, &c., the genii of the four cardinal points, to which they are required to direct their flight, to announce to the whole world, that, following the example of the god Horus, King Rhameses-Méiamoun has just placed on his head the crown, which is the emblem of domination over the superior and inferior regions. This crown is called *pschent*; it is that which in fact, and for the first time, the king here wears, standing upright, and before which passes the sacred ceremony that has been described.

The last part of the bas-relief represents the king wearing the pschent, thanking the god in his temple. The monarch, preceded by all the sacerdotal body, and by the sacred music, is accompanied by the officers of his household. He is afterwards seen reaping a sheaf of corn with a golden sickle; and finally, wearing his military helmet, as when he left the palace, taking leave, by a libation, of the god Ammon-Horus, who has returned to his sanctuary. The queen still witnesses these last two ceremonies; the priest invokes the gods; a hieroglyphic reads a long prayer; near the Pharaoh are still the white bull and the images of his royal ancestors, placed on the same base.

It is by studying this part of the picture that I have been enabled finally to satisfy myself of the relative situation occupied by Rhameses-Méiamoun in the series of Egyptian dynasties. The statues of the kings, his predecessors, are here chronologically arranged; and as their order is precisely that which is assigned to them in the other Theban monuments, no doubt can exist with respect to the line of succession. These statues, nine in number, bear before them the prenomenal cartouches of the kings whom they represent. Rhameses-Méiamoun having, like Rhameses the Great (Sesostris), marked his reign by great military exploits, these two princes have been confounded by the Greek historians, as if they were one and the same person. But the original monuments distinguish them too clearly to allow of the same confusion taking place henceforth. I purpose treating elsewhere of this important distinction, in greater detail. Let us return to the decoration of the magnificent court of Medinet-Habou.

NEW PUBLICATIONS.

Astronomia. F. G. Moon. 1830.

THE engravings accompanying astronomical works are usually calculated to convey either

false or inadequate ideas of the celestial bodies. The student may in vain explore the heavens for stars like those he finds in his elementary books on the science: if his telescope be a good one, he will perceive that the fixed stars appear like beautiful points, free from radiation; and the planets with defined circular discs, instead of stars resembling those which hang from the staves of the Guildhall giants. The planet Jupiter, as it is generally drawn, suggests the idea of its consisting of such loose materials, as to require to be held together by hoops most marvellously compact—the reverse of its appearance in nature, where these mysterious zones are drawn across the disc with the softest shadowing. Saturn is also so sadly misrepresented, that when this curious telescopic object is seen for the first time, the observer has been unable to recognise it. The inferior planets, likewise, are frequently figured in direct violation of the laws of light and shade, exhibiting such phases as it is impossible that an enlightened globular body can in any position assume. The pictorial representations of comets are, indeed, connected with sensations of terror, though not as the *rods* of wrath to the more sedate and less eccentric bodies of the system, but as associated with sundry painful reminiscences of the *birch* and the period of juvenile delinquencies. But of all the heavenly bodies, none has been so ill treated as our *Moon*, which, by the by, may have induced its namesake, the inventor of the *Astronomia*, not only to achieve its rescue from most libellous treatment, but also that of other objects in the starry heavens, in which he has succeeded with a fidelity which does credit to his science, skill, and taste.

The *Astronomia* consists of fifty-two cards, variously representing telescopic views of the moon, planets, satellites, and comet of 1680; also drawings of the zodiacal constellations—the whole admirably engraved on steel. These cards are so ingeniously arranged, as to form an amusing game, in which the minds of youth may be insensibly rendered familiar with the principal phenomena of the planetary system. The device of the game (which is explained in a little book) is excellent, and had the engravings been even indifferently designed and executed, would have recommended itself; but the truth of the delineations, some of which are fac-similes of a telescopic field of view, and the elegant and tasteful manner in which this case of “celestial cards” is got up, ranks it with the proudest of the *Annals*, and renders it one of the most elegant presents that can be put into the hands of youth.

A Synoptical Chart of Diseases of the Ear.

By J. Harrison Curtis, Surgeon-Aurist to His Majesty, &c. London, 1830. Highley.

MR. CURTIS has long been a sedulous investigator of, and writer on, the human ear; but this is the first time we have seen it and its diseases brought in a tabular form before the eye. Here the various disorders to which the important organ of hearing is liable are laid down—together with their probable causes, in one column, and their mode of cure, as recommended by the author, in another. The plan is ingenious, and, we dare say, the advice good.

LITERARY AND LEARNED.

ROYAL SOCIETY.

THE President in the chair. — A paper on the pendulum, &c. by J. W. Lubbock, Esq. was read; and was followed by an experimental inquiry relative to the polarisation of heat, by the

Rev. B. Powell, Savillian professor of geometry in the University of Oxford. Chevalier Aldini presented an interesting work on the improvement of lighthouses.

At a recent sitting, the following paper, entitled, "Experiments on the influence of the Aurora Borealis on the Magnetic Needle," was read. It is extracted from letters from the Rev. James Farquharson to Captain Sabine, by whom it was communicated.

In the first letter, dated from Alford, 15th December, 1829, the author gives a description of the instrument which was furnished to him by the Royal Society for measuring the variation of the magnetic needle, and also the magnetic intensity; and of his mode of using it. The needle was so delicately suspended as to render very sensible changes in the declination as small as 10'. In his experiments on the magnetic intensity, the intervals of time occupied in the needles performing 50 oscillations, commencing with an arc of 12°, were noted by a stop-watch, in which the stop, being applied on the balance, is instantaneous in its operation. The watch is again released from the stop at the commencement of a new observation; thus compensating, on the principle of the repeating circle, for any inaccuracy in the reading off, or any inequality in the divisions of the dial plate.

The observations made on an Aurora Borealis which appeared on the night of the 14th of December, are particularly detailed. On that occasion the disturbance of the magnetic declination was so great, and so frequently changing from east to west, and the reverse, as to leave no doubt in the mind of the author of the reality of this influence. The needle, however, was affected at those times only when the fringes of the aurora were in a position such as to include the needle in their planes. It appeared to him also, that the side towards which the needle declined was the greater where the aurora gave out the most vivid light.

His experiments on the oscillations of the needle have not yet enabled him to determine satisfactorily whether any change of magnetic intensity accompanied these changes of direction.

In a second letter, dated 26th December, he gives the results of later observations. From a comparison of his own with the observations of the Rev. James Paull, minister of Tully-nestle, he infers that the height of the particular aurora which was seen by them on the 20th, did not, at its upper extremities, exceed 4000 feet above the ground; and is led to the general conclusion, that the aurora borealis is situated in the region immediately above the clouds, and therefore varies much in height, according to the different states of the atmosphere. He believes it to be an effect of the development of electricity from the condensation of vapour. The position of the fringes, which are constantly at right angles to the magnetic meridian, their progressive movements from the north magnetic pole, and their influence on the needle whenever they come into the plane of the dip, are all of them circumstances which establish the relation of this phenomenon to magnetism; while they at the same time illustrate the intimate connexion subsisting between magnetism and electricity.

SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES.

Ox Thursday last H. Hallam, Esq., V.P., in the chair.—An account by Mr. Crofton Croker was read, of several hitherto unnoticed Druidical works in and about Lough Gur in the county of Limerick, which was illustrated by

drawings and plans. From Mr. Croker's statement it would appear that these are more extensive than any known Druidical remains; and that there is an extraordinary combination of natural objects in connexion with them.

ROYAL ASIATIC SOCIETY.

SIR GORE OUSELEY, Bart. in the chair. Three papers were read, viz.: An extract from the Vledaya, a celebrated commentary on Mahomedan law, drawn up in the manner of Blackstone's Commentaries, by Lieut.-Colonel Vans Kennedy. The second comprised excerpts from the *Malechat* e Dara Shekoly, or Dictionary of Pharmacy. This work extends to three folio volumes, containing not fewer than 3338 pages, and it touches not only on the nature of every disease to which the human frame is liable, and the corresponding remedies, but also on every topic within the compass of human knowledge. The extracts selected at this meeting, treat upon, and furnish data for, the measure of time and distances. They were translated and communicated by Major Price. The third paper embraced a variety of information illustrative of the history of the White and Black Jews of Cochin, on the Malabar coast; communicated by T. H. Baber, Esq. A variety of donations, preserved specimens in natural history, were made to the Society by Colonel Hopkinson. Several valuable publications were presented.

GERUSALEMME LIBERATA.

THE first of a course of lectures on this splendid poem was delivered at the London University, on Tuesday the 8th of March, by Signor Panizzi, Professor of Italian to the University; and is to be succeeded by seven others. Signor Panizzi first illustrated the *Gerusalemme* by giving, in a connected series, the historical facts upon which the poetical structure was reared. He shewed how the superstitions of the Crusaders, their enthusiasm, and their subsequent dissensions, had all been made available by the bard, in giving a tone of solemn interest to his production. The religious spirit which Tasso interweaved with the feats of arms, he illustrated most happily by that fine invocation, not to the Muse of Pagan verse, but to the genius of Christianity:

"O Musa, tu che di caduchi allori,
Non circondi la fronte in Eleccia;
Ma su nel cielo infra i beati così," &c.

Signor Panizzi observed, that Tasso was importuned by many of his friends not to adopt as the title of his poem, the words *Gerusalemme Liberata*, because in fact, in his time, Jerusalem was not delivered, being still in the hands of those from whom "il pio Godfredo" had endeavoured to wrest it: but Tasso replied, that he thought no title misplaced which could be supposed to imply a sneer upon the indifference of Christians to the bondage of the holy city, and could remind them that it was still in the hands of infidels. The lecture was admirably delivered, in English. The quotations, which were given in Italian, were recited with the enthusiasm of poetical feeling, and with the refinement of the purest Italian dialect. Signor Panizzi was attentively listened to by a highly respectable audience, consisting of ladies as well as gentlemen, among whom we noticed Mr. Hallam, and several other distinguished literary characters.

FINE ARTS.

PICTURE BY VANDYCK.

OUR attention has been called to a picture by Vandyck, now exhibiting in Regent Street,

(see advertisement). It was, we understand, formerly the property of Mr. Humble, of the Bank of England, who is said to have paid 1,200 guineas for it to a foreigner. The subject, the Virgin, Child, and Female Attendant, is pleasingly treated, and, upon the whole, correctly drawn. The sleeping infant is as splendid a specimen of colouring as we ever witnessed. Among other sights of London, we recommend this as worthy of a visit.

GALLERY OF BRITISH ARTISTS, SUFFOLK STREET.

WE understand that the arrangements for this Exhibition are in great forwardness, and, which is better, that the subjects in painting, drawing, and sculpture, are, in their variety and merit, superior to any of the former works of the Society. This we can readily believe, from our knowledge of many of the performances, as well as of the talents of those who are the principal contributors to this Gallery, which, in point of light and accommodation, far exceeds any other in the metropolis.

NEW PUBLICATIONS.

A Numismatic Atlas of Ancient History; comprising in a Series of Twenty-one Plates. Containing a Selection of 360 Grecian Coins of Kings, disposed in chronological order, from their earliest period to the beginning of the fourth century. From the Works of Havercamp, Pellerin, Duane, Visconti, Combe, Mionnet, &c. Arranged, and executed on stone, by Benjamin Richard Green. Accompanied with descriptive letter-press. London, 1829. Priestley and Weale.

THE title-page, which we have quoted above at full-length, is so explanatory of the work to which it is prefixed, that we have only to add that Mr. Green seems to us to have executed his laborious undertaking with fidelity and talent. The importance of numismatography in the acquisition of accurate historical knowledge, must be admitted by all. There is one observation, however, which we think will force itself upon the mind of every body who looks at these plates, and who is not in all respects a confirmed *laudator temporis aeti*; we allude to the brutal expression of most of the heads. For one countenance refined and elevated by intelligence, taste, and virtue, there are twenty debased by sensuality, cruelty, and folly. Some of these illustrious personages are perfectly hideous.

National Portrait Gallery of Illustrious and Eminent Personages of the Nineteenth Century. With Memoirs. By William Jerdan, Esq. No. XI. Fisher, Son, and Co.

THE plates which embellish this No. are portraits of the late Earl of Liverpool, Lady Georgiana Agar Ellis, and Professor Dugald Stewart. The first two are very pleasingly engraved; the last is rather dark and heavy. Of the memoirs, the sketch of the Earl of Liverpool's life, of course, contains the greatest variety of important incidents. The following passage is descriptive of the mutual benefit, and of the political consequences, which resulted from the intimacy of Lord Liverpool and Mr. Canning at the University, and which we do not remember to have before seen placed in the same point of view:

"At Oxford it was the happiness of the future premier to form an intimate friendship with one who, alas! adorned that station but too short a period; and the mutual love and esteem thus cemented between him and George Canning, produced not only a memorable in-

fluence upon their own lives, but upon the momentous public affairs in which they were concerned; the conduct of Britain, and the fate of Europe. It may readily be credited, that the steady attachment of Mr. Jenkinson to the crown, and to Tory opinions, had much weight on the more ardent imagination and temperament of his gifted companion, which were likely to enlist him on the side of the desirable rather than the practical; and that this early impression was infinitely requited by the attention with which the enlightened views of Mr. Canning were regarded by his colleagues in later years, when the most arduous struggle that ever tried a nation's energies, called for the wisest counsels and the most dauntless resolution. Friends in literary pursuits and academic shades, friends in the world's warfare, with the inspiring rewards of honourable ambition in their equal sight, friends in the possession of power, nothing dissociated these distinguished persons,—the evil passions of envy, of disappointment, of selfish rivalry, were not created for them; and they continued to be fast friends till death dissolved the admirable bond. But for this, it is probable that Mr. Canning's political course would have been very different; but for this, it is certain that Lord Liverpool's administration never would have been so fortunate and glorious."

Sir Thomas Lawrence. From a Drawing made by himself in the year 1812; drawn on stone by R. J. Lane, A.R.A. Dickinson.

A YOUTHFUL portrait of the late President; published, it is stated, with the concurrence of his family. It is certainly a resemblance; but we own that it does not strike us as being a very satisfactory one.

Scenery of the Rivers Yare and Waveney: from Pictures painted by James Stark; with Historical and Geological Descriptions by J. W. Robberds, Jun. Esq. Part II. Moon, Boys, and Graves.

THE delay in the publication of the Second Part of this clever work, the First Part of which we noticed several months ago, is attributable, we regret to say, to the long-continued illness of Mr. George Cook, the engraver. The consequence has been the omission of one plate, "the Devil's Tower," which will appear as an additional plate in the Third Part. We are enabled to speak of this Second Part with praise at least equal to that which we bestowed on its predecessor. The views are executed in a style very pleasing even to the general observer; and to those to whom the local scenery is rendered dear by early associations, the contemplation of them must be delightful.

DRAMA.

KING'S THEATRE.

ON Tuesday night was performed Rossini's incomparable production of *Il Barbiere di Siviglia*. Of the five operas already enacted, we consider this (speaking of the performance *ensemble*) the best that has been represented this season. Santini was the *Figaro* of the piece: he looked it admirably, and, altogether, succeeded in the personation of this difficult part in a manner we were not quite prepared to expect. Ambrogio went through his task in a very respectable, business-like sort of a way; but he is deficient in humour; and unless he tears a passion to raga, he does nothing whatever. Curioni was himself; and of this artist that is saying sufficient; for, when he likes, no one possesses in a higher

degree the power of pleasing. Blais personated *Rosina*. In that beautiful and well-known air of *Una voce poco fa* she was encored; and Pacini's exquisite air of *Alfin goder mi è dato*, which she introduced in the lesson-scene at the piano-forte, was given with a purity of style and taste altogether novel in these chromatic-running days. Merit will always find its level; and we are glad to perceive that the really musical portion of the public are beginning to discover that she possesses talents of no ordinary nature,—at least if we may judge from the *bravas* this donna now so constantly elicits from the pit. It has been her misfortune—though, perhaps, it may be regarded as the reverse, inasmuch as it has tended to elicit powers, of the possession of which she seemed to be herself unconscious—to have played nearly all the leading parts in Rossini's operas. Already she has appeared in five; and, if we may depend on the announcement, to-night she will appear in the sixth character this season; thus personating all those parts selected by Camporesi, Pasta, Sontag, and Malibran, as their respective *chefs-d'œuvre*.

The second representation of the new ballet of *William Tell* succeeded the performance of the above-mentioned opera. Preliminary puffing has done an infinity of mischief for the success of this piece. It was given out that it was to surpass *Massaniello*, not only in the music but in the scenic effect. It has no pretensions even to be compared with that inimitable ballet. The music of *William Tell* is not calculated for ballet music; it is not sufficiently marked; and dancing cannot be effected without something of a meaning melody. Violin passages strung together may display the dexterity of the leader in the orchestra; but it is painful to witness the dancer making a semibreve rest on one leg while he awaits the musical movement that can set the other in motion. Yet the fault of the ballet is a want of incident. The finale is very badly managed—it is too tame. Were there something to close with like the beautiful Swiss chorus introduced in the first act, the ballet-master might yet run it some eight or ten nights; but in its present state it is tediously dull, and very deficient in interest.

DRURY LANE.

MR. KEAN appeared on Monday last as *Henry V.*; and a more distressing scene, perhaps, was never witnessed on the stage. We heartily wish he had had courage enough to avow to the management that he was unequal to the task, and to positively refuse placing himself in a situation which, in his appeal to the audience, he, with quivering lips and moistened eyes, too truly characterised as "degrading." Such a resolution would have spared his friends and the public (we mean that part of it whose better feelings predominated) a most painful moment, the recollection of which will ever intrude itself amongst the glorious remembrances of his early triumphs. But mental courage, alas! Mr. Kean never possessed; and, with much kindly feeling and generosity of disposition, his utter want of resolution has made him the prey of knaves, the scoff of fools, and the constant subject of theatrical broils and contentions. The managers, we think, are alone to blame on this occasion; for Mr. Kean did make an effort—a great effort—and failed from causes beyond his power now to control; but his incapacity must have been evident to the managers, however he might have assured them to the contrary,—or they would never have revived a play of Shakespeare for such an actor as Kean, with so total a

disregard to appropriate decoration, or even decent cleanliness. The Boar's Head, Eastcheap, was represented by a cottage in a wood! and the dresses, generally speaking, would have disgraced a barn. We may surely argue from this circumstance, that there existed little hope in the theatre of the play being repeated; and it would, therefore, have been wiser as far as regarded the interests of the establishment, kinder to Mr. Kean, and more respectful to the public, not to have done it at all.

VARIETIES.

Paper for preserving Articles of Tin and Steel from Rust.—Dry some pumice-stone in red-hot charcoal, and then reduce it to powder, which is to be ground up with varnish and linseed-oil. It is then to be further liquefied with the same varnish until it is in a fit state to be laid on paper with a brush. A coat of this composition is to be spread on good stout paper, and when that is dry a second. The paper being thoroughly dry, the article to be preserved is tied up in it.

Paris Academy of Sciences.—At the last sitting of this body a ballot took place, to fill the vacancy of foreign member, occasioned by the death of Sir Humphry Davy. There were several candidates, but out of fifty-two votes forty-two were in favour of Mr. Dalton, who was declared duly elected. At this sitting M. Geoffroy St. Hilaire read a long paper on the composition of animals, in reply to a paper by M. Cuvier. According to M. Geoffroy St. Hilaire, all animals are the result of one system of composition, (*les animaux sont tous le produit d'un même système de composition*).

Spots on the Sun.—M. Arago, the celebrated French astronomer, has for some years past been making observations of the spots on the sun's disc, for the purpose of ascertaining whether any, and what, effect is produced by them on the temperature of the earth. He states, that his observations are inconclusive without those of astronomers in other countries, and invites communications on the subject.

Prince Leopold.—A letter from Paris states, that Prince Leopold, who is himself a very good botanist, intends to take with him to Greece two or three persons who are thoroughly acquainted with the science of botany and horticulture, for the purpose of introducing into that country the plants and trees which are likely to prove of service there, and also of sending to England, France, and Germany, any new specimens which may suit the climate, or the hot-houses and green-houses of persons who take an interest in the subject.

French Academy.—At a recent sitting of the French Academy, M. Jacobi and Mr. Herschel were elected corresponding members; the former in the section of geometry, the latter in the section of astronomy. Of fifty votes, M. Jacobi obtained forty-eight; of forty-five votes, Mr. Herschel obtained forty-four.

Imitation Gold.—The following preparation, which is much used in Germany for articles of jewellery, has been made public in the Journal of Hanover by the inventor, Professor Hermsstadt:—Take of pure platina sixteen parts; pure copper seven parts; pure zinc one part. Put them into a crucible, which is to be covered with powdered charcoal, and leave them on the fire until they are melted into one mass. It is said that this composition has not only the colour of gold, but also its ductility and specific gravity.

Singular Discovery.—A French paper contains a curious account of the skeleton of a

man found in the hollow of a tree, with its head downwards. There was nothing about it to show whether a murder had been committed, or whether some fantastical suicide had taken this extraordinary means of destruction.

Antiquarian Researches: New Plan.—The Duke of Calabria has encouraged the Swiss regiment of Bern, in the Neapolitan service, to devote their leisure hours to excavation. Any fruits which may arise from their labours are to be sent home to their own country, to enrich their national museum.

Meteor.—A curious phenomenon was observed a few days ago at Perpignan. About four o'clock in the morning a luminous meteor passed over the town: it had the appearance of a globe of fire of several colours, the diameter of which seemed to be about the same as that of the moon at its full. The meteor passed with great rapidity, and spread a light equal to the most brilliant sunshine. It did not follow the direction of the magnetic axis, and its motion was from west to east. When it had arrived at the end of its course, it exploded, and the report was as loud as thunder. What is curious is, that the globe of fire, just previous to the explosion, formed itself into a line, and flashes of flame issued from what had the appearance of burning coals.

American Mountains.—It appears that Chimborazo, which has been hitherto considered the highest mountain in America, ranks in that respect only the third among those which have been at present measured. In the Eastern Cordilleras which separate the valley of Desaguadero from the immense plains of Chiquitos and Moxos, the trigonometrical or barometrical observations of M. Pentland have ascertained that the Nevado de Sorata, and the Nevado de Illimani, are elevated, the former 7,696 metres, the latter 7,315 metres, above the level of the sea. According to Humboldt, the Chimborazo of the Andes of Quito is only 6,520 metres above the level of the sea.—*Pentland's unpublished Travels.*

LITERARY NOVELTIES.

[Literary Gazette Weekly Advertisement, No. XI. March 12th, 1830.]

PUBLISHING.

The Novelties of which we have heard since our last consist of the Life and Correspondence of Admiral Lord Rodney, in the press. The recent controversy about the breaking of the line is supposed to have hastened this publication: but it had been long in preparation by a member of the family; and, report says, will form a source of not less valuable information and instruction than the late Life and Letters of Lord Collingwood. The Family Cabinet Atlas, constructed upon an original plan. The Game of Life, a Novel, by Leitch Ritchie, author of Tales and Confessions. Fiction without Romance, or the Locket-Watch, a Novel, by Mrs. Polack. A new work on the French language, by Mr. Tarver, French master of Eton, on the plan of the Enseignement Universel of Jacotot. Problems in the different Branches of Philosophy, by the Rev. Dr. M. Bland, F.R.S. Oxford English Prize Essays, now first collected: the Earl of Eldon, Mr. Grattan, Lord Sidmouth, Bishops Burgess, Copeland, Heber, and Mant, Professors Milman, Sandford, and Robertson, Rev. R. Whately, &c. &c., are amongst the authors. Tales of Scottish Life and Character. The Picture of India. The Village and Cottage Florist's Directory, by James Main, A.L.S. A new volume of Country Stories by Miss Mitford. Ranulph de Rohais, a Romance of the Twelfth Century, by the Author of Tales of a Voyager to the Arctic Ocean.

LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

Pilgrim of the Hebrides, by the Author of Three Days at Killarney, 8vo. 10s. 6d. bds.—Dr. A. Thomson's Sermons against Universal Pardon, 12mo. 6s. 6d. bds.—Wilson's Protestant Truths and Roman Catholic Errors, 12mo. 6s. 6d. bds.—Leske's Travels in the Mores, 3 vols. 8vo. 2l. 5s. bds.—Marley on Diseases of Children, 8vo. 9s. bds.—Strutt's Manual of Devotion, 18mo. 3s. 6d. cloth.—Harrison on Water Colours, 8vo. 2s. 6d. bds.—Lloyd's Field Sports of the North of Europe, 2 vols. 8vo. 1l. 12s. bds.—Temple's Travels in Peru, 2 vols. 8vo. 1l. 12s. bds.—Carroll, or Crime and Sorrow, post 8vo. 10s. 6d. bds.—Blunt's Veracity of the Books of Moses, crown 8vo. 5s. 6d. bds.—Francour's Mathematics, Vol. II. 8vo. 15s. bds.—Griffith's Sermons, 8vo. 11s. bds.

METEOROLOGICAL JOURNAL, 1830.

February.	Thermometer.	Barometer.
Thursday.. 25	From 43. to 55.	30.11 to 30.02
Friday.... 26	— 43. — 54.	29.89 — 30.02
Saturday.. 27	— 43. — 56.	29.96 — 30.00
Sunday.... 28	— 41. — 55.	29.94 — 30.08

March.

Thermometer.	Barometer.
Monday.. 1	— 38. — 53.
Tuesday.. 2	— 42. — 55.
Wednesday 3	— 29. — 55.

Prevailing wind S.W. Except the 27th and 28th ult. cloudy; raining on the 25th and 26th.

Rain fallen, .25 of an inch.

March.	Thermometer.	Barometer.
Thursday.. 4	From 24. to 43.	30.16 to 30.00
Friday.... 5	— 26. — 46.	29.92 — 29.94
Saturday.. 6	— 25. — 42.	29.95 — 29.96
Sunday.... 7	— 25. — 40.	29.93 — 29.99
Monday.. 8	— 26. — 47.	29.99 — 29.88
Tuesday.. 9	— 35. — 47.	29.66 — 29.54
Wednesday 10	— 37. — 50.	29.55 — 29.66

Wind variable, prevailing N.E. and S.E.

Generally clear; raining on the 9th and morning of the 10th.

Rain fallen, .125 of an inch.

At the request of a Correspondent, we insert a list of the most remarkable hard winters which have occurred since the year 1774, the period at which the meteorological register (from which this account is extracted) commences.

Year.	Began.	Duration.	Lowest of Thermometer.
1783-4	October 8	12 6	13° Dec. 30
1784-5	October 1	13 5	6 Dec. 10
1785-6	September 17	15 2	9 March 5
1788-9	October 19	9 2	0-5 Dec. 31
1794-5	November 9	12 5	1° Jan. 25
1813-14	October 18	15 6	11 Jan. 17
1829-30	October 7	13 6	9 Feb. 6

The days of commencement above named are not the days on which the several frosts set in, neither is the period of duration named in the next column the result of one continued frost, but of the different frosts for the winter, taken collectively; and for the satisfaction of those who may wish to know the several periods, the following account is given:—

In 1783-4, the frosts were as follow:—Oct. 8, 15; Nov. 12 to 14, 23; Dec. 12 to 15, 18 to 31; Jan. 5 to 13, 16 to Feb. 20; March 1, 21 to 10 to 16; 19, 20; 25 to April 1, 9 to 11. Total number of days, 90.

In 1784-5, Oct. 1, 25; Nov. 5, 6, 19 to 21, 30 to Dec. 2, 7 to Jan. 4, 6 to 8, 10, 13, 29 to March 14, 22, 23; April 1 to 3. Total number of days, 96.

In 1785-6, Sept. 17, Oct. 25 to 30; Nov. 8 to 10, 13 to Dec. 5, 8, 11, 12, 14, 15, 18 to Jan. 6, 14 to 30; Feb. 2 to 4, 7 to 9, 13 to 16, 22 to March 18, 27 to 31; April 9 to 11. Total number of days, 107.

In 1788-9, Oct. 19, 20; Nov. 6, 16, 17, 23 to 29; Dec. 1 to 6, 9, 11 to 20, 22, 23, 26 to 31; Jan. 1 to 13, 20; Feb. 8, 10, 12, 20; March 5 to 13, 16, 24, 26, 27. Total number of days, 65.

In 1794-5, Nov. 9, 10, 18 to 20, 27; Dec. 10 to 12, 16 to Jan. 26, 28 to Feb. 7, 13 to 22, 27 to March 3, 8 to 19, 21 to 23, 26; May 27, 28. Total number of days, 89.

In 1813-14, Oct. 18 to 20, 29, 30; Nov. 1, 4 to 6, 13, 14, 17, 18, 28 to 30; Dec. 1, 2, 12 to 15, 21, 27; Feb. 5, 14 to March 19, 23, 24, 27, 31; April 4, 5, 9 to 12, 27; May 11, 12. Total number of days, 111.

In 1829-30, Oct. 7 to 10, 16, 24, 25, 27; Nov. 1 to 3, 8, 16 to 22, 25 to 27; Dec. 7, 9 to 19, 14 to Jan. 4, 6 to Feb. 4, 10 to 23. Total number of days, 97.

Edmonton. CHARLES H. ADAMS.

IN answer to a "Constant Inspector of the Meteorological Diary," respecting the difference of temperature, as noticed in the *Literary Gazette*, No. 682, and *Gentleman's Magazine*, published March 1830, on the 6th of February last, when, in the former work, the lowest of the thermometer was 2°; whereas, in the latter, it does not appear to have been on that day lower than 19°!—we have merely to state, that the probable cause of the difference of temperature arises from the circumstance of the extreme cold not being ascertained from a self-registering thermometer, and the observation not being made earlier than eight o'clock in the morning.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No. II. of *Juvenalia* in our next.
To a Reader of the *Literary Gazette*, who calls upon us to advocate the public cause against "publishers whom we so much benefit by our recommendations," and particularly complains of the tenth volume of the new Waverley Edition, for not containing "the last three chapters and conclusion of Old Mortality," we have to say that we agree with him in thinking the division alluded to very inconvenient; but still we do not see how it could have been avoided, as the addition of the deferred portion must have extended the volume, already of the full size of 416 pages, to the bulk of 150 pages more, and out of all agreement with his brethren.

ENGLAND.—In the 1st column of the 157th page of our last No., line 14 from the top, for "pointed architecture," read "painted architecture."

ADVERTISEMENTS

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Works on the Art of Dancing, and Compose of Ballets, &c. &c. having recently returned to London, begs leave to acquaint the Nobility and Gentry, that he proposes to open a Dancing Academy for Ladies and Gentlemen four times a Week—that is, twice for Ladies and twice for Gentlemen.—M. Blais will also give Private Lessons, either at his Academy, or at the houses of those Ladies and Gentlemen who may honour him by their patronage.—Such Ladies and Gentlemen who may be desirous to receive instructions from Mons. Blais, will be pleased to communicate their commands, addressed to him, No. 135, Regent Street.

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* * * Major Bell's Nineteen Charts of Universal History, Authors, and Painters—or Comparative Tabular Regions of Political and Literary Time (3d edition, price 1l. 10s.), are, for the present, by agreement with the Publishers, disposed of solely by retrospective Subscription.

MICHAEL THOMAS SADLER, Esq.

M.P. A Portrait of this distinguished Gentleman, who so ably advocated the Protestant Cause in the late Debate on Catholic Emancipation, will be published in a few days, by Lucas Houghton, Printseller, Poultry, Cheapside, from a Picture by William Robinson, of Leeds. Engraved by Thomas Lupton. Subscribers' Names received by L. Houghton, 30, Poultry. Prints, 15s. Proofs, 1s. 6d.

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